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VOLUME LXIII. NUMBER 18878 FRIDAY. JANUARY 27. 1995 ● SHVAT 26. 5755 ● SHAABAN 25. 1415 NIS 5.30 (EILAT NIS 4.50)

Poll: Many Palestinians back attacks against Israelis

News agencies

A MAJORITY of Palestinians in the territories support terrorist attacks against Israelis, a survey indicated yesterday.

In a poll of 787 Palestinians on Tuesday, two days after the Beit Lid bombing, 53 percent said they would like to see more "military actions" by Palestinians. Slightly more than one-third opposed violence, and 13% had no opinion.

The survey was conducted by the Palestinian Center for Public Opinion and had a margin of error of 4%.

Pollster Nabil Kokali said support among Palestinians for violence against Israelis has increased in recent months, in part because of growing anger over settlement expansion.

A survey conducted among Israelis after the bombing showed that 50% favor halting talks, while 37% opted for continuing the negotiations. In the past, a majority supported the talks.

Meanwhile, the Gaza-based newspaper Al-Watan warned yesterday that attacks against Israel would continue.

"Israel only understands the language of power," said editor Ghazi Hamad, who served five years in prison for membership in Hamas.

In Washington, US Secretary of State Warren Christopher praised Israel's courage in proceeding with peace talks and pressed the Palestinian Authority to "do its part" to stop the terror.

"Israelis must be secure and must be reassured tangibly that the Palestinian Authority will do its part in the areas of its control to stop the violence and terror," he told the House International Relations Committee.

Christopher urged that "despite the tragic violence, we should not lose heart or faith in this process or give in to threats of the enemies of peace."

Shahak raps colonel

Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Shahak yesterday summoned Col. Gershon Hacohen, and told him his remarks about women were unacceptable. Hacohen, in a speech to high school students, had depicted women as prostitutes. Shahak, in his rebuke, stressed the important role women played in the IDF.

Full report, Page 22

Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel and Knesset Speaker Shevah Weiss embrace upon meeting yesterday before taking part in the separate Jewish ceremony held at Birkenau. (Reuter)

Kaddish echoes at Auschwitz-Birkenau

Jerusalem Post staff and agencies

AUSCHWITZ-BIRKENAU – Carrying the flags of more than 30 countries, 1,500 somber visitors yesterday retraced the footsteps of nearly 1.5 million Jews pushed and prodded to their deaths by Nazi thugs.

They filed silently along the rail track that bore the overcrowded cattle cars, past the wooden barracks and the watchtowers of the SS and their dogs.

The gathering – mostly, but not all, Jewish – massed by the Auschwitz-Birkenau gas chambers and crematoria in a ceremony separate from the official events marking today's anniversary of the death camp's liberation by the Soviet army on January 27, 1945.

"God of forgiveness, do not forgive those murderers of Jewish children here," said Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel, who experienced the Auschwitz horror.

"Remember the nocturnal processions of children and more children and more children, frightened, quiet, so quiet and so beautiful."

Leading the march were sets of twins who survived some of the worst horrors at the hands of the Nazi Angel of Death "experimenter" Josef Mengele.

"Naturally, we know that there is no collective guilt," said Wiesel. "Only the guilty were guilty. Their children are children. So children all over the world, remember the Jewish children.

"And if you remember, as we try to remember, then, as you just heard, hope is possible that because of our memory, thanks to our Jewish memory, a better world might be built in which children could be happy ... Smiling, singing, taking each other's hands and saying to each other: 'Well, another morning, another day. Another morning, another day, for humankind.' "

The throng fell silent as the cantor, his voice breaking, intoned the names of Hitler's death camps in a tribute to the six million.

MK Dov Shilanski led the crowd of 300 people in reciting *kaddish* over this most hideous of Jewish graveyards.

"Fifty years ago is the day when I regained my freedom in Auschwitz," said Maurice Goldstein, head of the International Committee of 10,000 Auschwitz survivors. "The world we are living in now did not meet our expectations. We imagined the world to be more honest, more aware of justice, without skinheads, racism.

"To forgive and forget? Never!" he said at the end of his speech at Jagiellonian University in Krakow, where he attended President Lech Walesa's inauguration of the two days of remembrance.

The Jewish groups who organized the separate religious service at Birkenau had been angry that the *kaddish* was not accorded more prominence in the program for the main anniversary ceremony planned today.

In Krakow, 50 miles to the east, Walesa said the Nazi invaders began the subjugation of Poland by first imprisoning professors from the 14th-century university where he spoke.

"Books are burnt first, and the authors of those books are imprisoned, and then people are murdered.

"They knew that a nation whose academic and creative elite were destroyed would be easier to strip of the power of resistance, easier to exterminate," he said.

Despite the controversy over Poland's arrangements for the commemoration, several Jewish leaders joined Walesa, including Kalman Sultanik, deputy of the World Jewish Congress, who later went to the Birkenau memorial. They reminded the world in speeches that the threat of racism and antisemitism did not end when Auschwitz was liberated, and not even when the Nazis were destroyed.

Wiesel skipped the university event.

Squarely confronting Hitler's heinous crimes, Germany yesterday paid tribute to the victims of Auschwitz and vilified modern-day fascists who deny the Nazis' murder of six million Jews.

"The darkest and most horrific chapter of German history was written at Auschwitz," said Chancellor Helmut Kohl. "It was the lowest depth of evil of which humans are capable."

Rita Suessmuth, president of Germany's lower house of parliament, castigated neo-Nazis and revisionist historians who have been denying the Holocaust.

"Those who want to wipe out the traces of Auschwitz or deny Auschwitz ... themselves become guilty by erasing [the victims'] past and by taking away their dignity," she said. "The crimes of Auschwitz can be compared with nothing else."

In Athens, Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias canceled his trip to Auschwitz-Birkenau because Polish authorities will raise the flag of neighboring Macedonia at the ceremonies. "The symbol [on the flag] is Greek and has been stolen," the ministry said.

The last execution – and the first justified one – in Auschwitz took place on April 16, 1947. The notorious camp commander, Rudolf Hoess, was sentenced to death by a Polish court. He was hanged at a gallows specially erected in front of his former office.

Rabin: Settlements add nothing to security

SARAH HONIG and HERB KEINON

"THE settlers are a burden on the IDF," Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin complained at yesterday's weekly session of the Labor Party political bureau. "They are making the soldiers' task much more difficult. The soldiers would do far better in combatting terror if they didn't have to protect convoys of school buses every day."

Earlier in the day, settlement activists had placed three trailers on hilltops near Ma'aleh Amos, and completed a road linking Kochav Ya'acov, near Jerusalem, with an adjacent hill.

Rabin further charged that the "settlements add nothing, absolutely nothing, to Israel's security. They are a liability rather than an asset."

When Peace Now leader Tzali Reshef interrupted to ask why the settlements are not all disbanded immediately, Rabin replied: "Because we need to reach a final peace settlement first."

According to Rabin, "fanatical Islamic suicide terror is Israel's No. 1 security problem. The problem is that those who commit suicide are simple people; they are dupes who are taken advantage of by bloodthirsty manipulators. They are exploited, but being ordinary people, it is hard to distinguish them in a crowd."

Sites within "sovereign Israel like Beit Lid are not chosen by accident. They are the targets because 98 percent of all Israelis live there and not in settlements in the territories," Rabin asserted.

He also noted, according to Itim, that "the intermingling of Palestinians and Israelis is the gateway to terror. I didn't mean a fence, but separation – an end to our economic dependence on Palestinian labor, giving the Palestinians a chance to live their lives among themselves, not the intermingling the Likud tried to enforce by placing settlements in heavily populated areas."

At Ma'aleh Amos, some 13 kilometers southeast of Bethlehem, a few dozen Palestinians, claiming that the land in question is theirs, demonstrated following the setting up of the trailers.

IDF troops rushed to the scene, and the civil administration ordered work stopped on two of the trailers, saying they were placed outside the settlement's borders and would be removed. The third trailer, a civil administration spokesman said, was inside the settlement.

Ma'aleh Amos resident Tuvia Schertzman said the move was "an act of defiance of the government. It is a signal that we are going to build here no matter what."

But Mordecai Alexander, in charge of absorption on the settlement, said the act was not sanctioned by the settlement, but was carried out by a few individuals acting contrary to the wishes of the settlement's leadership. The setting up of the trailers was also not approved by the Gush Etzion local council.

There are currently about 60 families in Ma'aleh Amos, about 60 percent of them US immigrants.

Meanwhile, three bulldozers at Kochav Ya'acov completed work begun some two weeks ago on a road to link that settlement with a barren hill, half a kilometer away.

The civil administration issued an order to stop work on the road, but the work had been completed, and the bulldozers had already left. A civil administration spokesman said the work was "illegal."

Leaders of Kochav Ya'acov, just east of Jerusalem's Atarot airport, said the settlement plans to build some 500 homes on the hill. No such plans have been approved by the government. Currently some 140 families live at the site.

Palestinians have recently reported dozens of recent trespasses by settlers on private land. *Jon Immanuel contributed to this report.*

Rabin: Shas has a week to decide if it's in or out

SARAH HONIG

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin last night demanded that Shas make up its mind within a week if it is joining the coalition. If not, he said, its cabinet portfolios would be reassigned.

At the same time, he insisted he was not issuing an ultimatum.

Rabin told the Labor political bureau that he expects Shas and Labor to open negotiations in earnest next week.

There was no panic in Shas. Knesset faction head Shlomo Benizri noted that a meeting between Shas and Labor has been scheduled for Monday, "so why all the noise?"

Shas's joining the coalition is dependent on the High Court of Justice upholding the coalition agreement it signed with Labor, which promises that legislation will be passed to circumvent any court ruling Shas deems as violating the status quo on religious affairs. The matter had been before the court for nearly four months.

However, Shas has recently been saying it would drop this special demand if the government launches a construction campaign in the communities surrounding Jerusalem.

The fact that the government this week decided not to halt construction around Jerusalem is seen as a possible way out for Shas, if it really wants to rejoin the coalition.

On Tuesday, Shas voted against the government in a no-confidence motion. It was not the first time Shas had done so, but Shas has also threatened to actively join the opposition if the government does not alter its pol-

(Continued on Page 2)

SHABBAT	BEGINS	ENDS
Jerusalem	4:32	5.47
Tel Aviv	4.50	5.49
Haifa	4:40	5.46
Beersheba	4.48	5.47
Eilat	4.52	5.53

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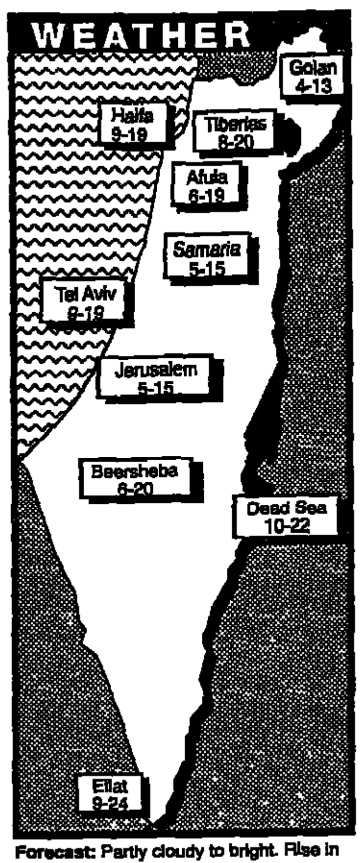

Forecast: Partly cloudy to bright. Rise in temperatures..
Outlook for Shabbat: Rain in north should expand to center.

AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW C	LOW F	HIGH C	HIGH F	
Amsterdam	01	34	08	46	rain
Berlin	02	36	10	50	cloudy
Buenos Aires	17	63	30	86	clear
Cairo	10	50	18	64	clear
Chicago	-12	10	00	32	cloudy
Copenhagen	00	32	04	39	cloudy
Frankfurt	05	41	05	41	cloudy
Geneva	05	41	10	50	rain
Helsinki	00	32	01	34	cloudy
Hong Kong	16	61	18	64	cloudy
Jo'burg	15	59	28	82	clear
Lisbon	09	48	15	59	pcloudy
London	04	39	04	39	rain
Los Angeles	11	51	15	59	clear
Madrid	09	48	11	52	rain
Montreal	-15	05	-03	27	clear
Moscow	-06	23	00	32	cloudy
New York	01	33	06	42	clear
Paris	06	43	10	50	rain
Rome	09	48	16	61	pcloudy
Stockholm	-08	21	-01	30	cloduy
Sydney	19	66	25	77	cloudy
Tokyo	02	36	10	50	clear
Toronto	-03	27	00	32	snow
Vienna	12	54	14	57	pcloudy

Winning numbers and cards

In last night's Payis Hazak drawing, the holder of ticket number 179794 won NIS 1,000,000.

The holder of ticket number 841864 won a Honda sports car.

Tickets numbered 070152, 501500, 206405, 839334, 241087, 004818, 535744, 467820, 767718, 741453, 038578, 204413, 648320, 737100, 487156, 039335, 683818, 130053, 895907, 190462, 694671, 660839, 282776, 562872, 394560 and 294004 won NIS 5,000. Those tickets ending in 71608, 14813, 55463, 01010, 95469, 08574, 98871, 91386, 74671, 72718, 57729, 97457, 15929, 02016, 84376 79458, 33847, 16971 and 59541 won NIS 1,000. Tickets ending in 251, 123, 627, and 869 won NIS 100. Tickets ending in 87, 93, 85 and 11 won NIS 20. Tickets ending in 27, 75, 55, 58, 99, 04 and 71 won NIS 10. *Tickets ending in 7 won NIS 7.*

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were *the seven of spades*, jack of hearts, ace of diamonds, and ten of clubs.

CORRECTIONS

THE figure quoted in today's *Magazine* Endnotes should have said that approximately 1.35 million to 1.45 million Jews are estimated to have died at Auschwitz.

The main photograph on Page 26 of the *Magazine* is of historian Jacob Katz.

Jordan, Palestinians sign accord

AMMAN (AP) – King Hussein and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat signed a broad economic agreement yesterday, ushering in a new era of cooperation after a strain in ties.

But an effort to find a formula to end their *dispute over* Jerusalem remained inconclusive, with each side offering a different evaluation of the outcome of that debate.

A Jordanian cabinet minister said Amman considered the Jerusalem issue settled, after *the Palestinians indirectly endorsed Jordan's* role in administering religious sites there in a preamble to the cooperation treaty. The minister refused to be identified by name.

A spokesman for Arafat, however, said that was not so. He told an impromptu news conference that more consultations were needed to resolve the problem.

"The agreement on cooperation constitutes a step in the right direction, but the other matter [Jerusalem] remains unsettled," Nabil Abu Rudeineh said.

The preamble said: "The peace accord that *Jordan signed with Israel on October 26 is an* important step toward Jordan regaining its sovereign rights ... And a cornerstone for the other negotiating tracks in achieving all legitimate Arab rights."

The Jordanians interpreted that as Palestinian acceptance of the Jordan-Israel peace treaty. That pact gave the kingdom a special role *in caring for Islamic shrines in eastern* Jerusalem.

In return, Jordan reaffirmed its support for the Palestinian quest, and pledged to help the PLO implement its September 1993 self-rule agreement with Israel and establish the independent Palestinian state the Palestinians aspire for.

In two days of talks with Arafat leading to the signing of the agreement, Hussein had assured the PLO chairman that Jordan would relinquish its custody of Jerusalem's Islamic shrines when the Palestinians gain sovereignty over the city.

The Palestinians were enraged by the reference to Jerusalem in the Jordan-Israel peace treaty. The PLO considered it an attempt to undercut its quest for political sovereignty over the city.

The economic cooperation agreement was signed by Arafat and Prime Minister Zeid Bin Shaker *in a brief ceremony at Hussein's* palace. It ended another episode of strained relations.

Arafat had been balking at ratifying an agreement drafted by Jordanian and Palestinian experts a year ago. He feared it would curtail his economic independence.

In extensive negotiations this week, Jordanian officials and Arafat representatives worked out a modified accord that restricted the free hand the initial agreement gave to Jordan in Palestinian monetary and banking affairs. Details of the accord were not released to the press.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat signs a cooperation accord in Amman yesterday *while King Hussein looks on.* *(Reuter)*

Senate to re-examine aid to Egypt

THE Senate intends to re-examine the US aid program to Egypt, the head of its Middle East subcommittee said yesterday.

Hank Brown (R-Col.) told an American Jewish Committee meeting here that he will hold hearings on the matter. The US does "far more good for Egypt if we begin to shift that aid away from its predominance in military over to an assistance to privatize and improve their economy."

Brown said that "to suggest that the vast majority of our [$2.1 *billion annual] aid to Egypt* should continue forever to be in the military category, I think is not in anyone's long-term interest."

Brown also said he was "disappointed by failure" to have *warmer peace between Egypt* and Israel.

Hillel Kuttler

SHAS

(Continued from Page 1)

icy on "Greater Jerusalem."

Rabin told Shas that he must know what to do with the Religious Affairs and Interior portfolios he is holding for it. "I cannot keep the portfolios forever, and the situation in which we are a minority government is unhealthy and opens the door for extortion by every single MK," Rabin explained.

'Ma'ariv' sued for libel over wiretapping story

RAINE MARCUS

SECURITY company owner David Spector filed a NIS 600,000 libel suit against *Ma'ariv*, its publisher Ofer Nimrodi, editor Ya'acov Erez, reporters Erez Rotem and Eli Tamir, and the paper's *security officer*, David Ronen, in Tel Aviv District court yesterday.

The suit accuses *Ma'ariv* of printing a "tendentious" article containing false information which harmed Spector.

The story was published in August, after Nimrodi was questioned by police to find out if he was involved in commissioning illegal wiretapping from private investigators Rafi Friedan and Ya'acov Tsur.

The article said that Spector had threatened Nimrodi that if he did not pay him a great deal of money, he would give the police false information. In fact, several *days previously*, Spector filed a complaint with the police stating that Nimrodi, via Friedan's lawyer Motti Katz, had offered him money to obtain false information about *Yediot Aharanot's* activities, and that *Yediot* editor-in-chief Arnon Mozes had paid him to carry out illegal wiretapping.

In his suit, Spector claims police have evidence implicating Nimrodi and Ronen in commissioning illegal wiretapping, and Ronen, acting for Nimrodi, paid Katz to represent Tsur and Friedan.

Boutros-Ghali: Extend UNIFIL mandate

MARILYN HENRY
NEW YORK

UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has recommended UNIFIL's mandate be extended by six months, although it has made "no progress" in meeting its mandate.

In a report to the Security Council on Wednesday, Boutros-Ghali said UNIFIL contributed to the area's stability and recommended that its mandate be extended until July 31. The extension is considered pro forma.

Member states owe more than $203 million to the force, and Boutros-Ghali reiterated concerns about the "serious shortfalls.

UNIFIL's financial woes are expected to multiply in October, when the US share for all peacekeeping operations is scheduled to drop from the current 30.6 percent to 25 percent. Congress last year legislated the reduction.

UN cost-cutting measures already are in the works. When it takes up the question of the mandate next week, the Security Council will be proposing cuts in UNIFIL.

The cuts, which have not yet been made public, are said to be aimed at streamlining UNIFIL's administration and will not affect operations. Ambassador Gad Ya'acobi has been advised of the cuts, and did not object to them, according to Israel's UN mission.

From July to January 20, Boutros-Ghali said, UNIFIL observed 87 operations against the IDF and what the UN calls the "de facto forces" – the South Lebanon Army – "by armed elements who have proclaimed their resistance against Israel's occupation."

In the same period, he said, UNIFIL recorded more than 16,000 artillery, mortar, and tank rounds fired by the IDF and SLA, as against 10,500 in the previous mandate.

David Rudge contributed to this report.

Christopher: Keep UN forces funds intact

HILLEL KUTTLER
WASHINGTON

CONGRESS' proposal to slash US funding of UN peacekeeping forces would lead to removing observers now on the Golan Heights, Secretary of State Warren Warren Christopher warned yesterday.

The House motion is contained in a bill sponsored by International Relations Committee chairman Benjamin Gilman (R-NY). The National Security Revitalization Act would deduct US expenses for emergency operations from the administration's present UN peacekeeping contributions.

Christopher told the committee the legislation "would force the withdrawal of peacekeepers and monitors" from the Golan Heights, Sinai, the Iraq-Kuwait border, and Lebanon, as well as from Cyprus and Georgia.

Christopher also repeated his statement made in a speech last week that in order for a breakthrough in the Israel-Syrian talks, "critical decisions must be made and the process must be accelerated. President Clinton and I continue to do all we can to assist the parties."

Last year, the UN assessed the US $1.5 billion for its UN peacekeeping contribution, constituting 31.7 percent of the budget, the bill states. US troops do not serve in the Golan force.

The administration opposes Gilman's bill, which Christopher claimed "would leave us with an unacceptable option each time an emergency arose: a choice between acting alone and doing nothing."

US embassy officials visit Golan

DAVID RUDGE

LEADING US embassy officials paid a fact-finding visit to the Golan Heights on Wednesday and met with representatives of the residents committee, *The Jerusalem Post* learned yesterday.

The day-long tour by the three-member delegation to Katzrin was apparently aimed at assessing the atmosphere among residents and their determination to keep the region under Israeli rule.

"Their questions were mainly related to our campaign against any withdrawal and about development in the area," said Ramona Bar-Lev, wife of Katzrin local council head Sammy Bar-Lev and herself a leading member of the Golan Residents Committee.

The officials were also interested in whether Golan residents would be prepared to accept some kind of compromise.

The committee representatives were adamant that their fight was to retain all of the Golan. Sammy Bar-Lev added that the Golan and not political personalities was their sole concern, when asked if they would feel more secure under the Likud.

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Two Jews arrested for trying to pray on Temple Mount

BILL HUTMAN

TWO followers of former underground member Yehuda Etzion were detained by police yesterday, when they smuggled *tallitot* and prayer books on to the Temple Mount and began praying near Al-Aksa Mosque.

It was the third time in just over a month that members of Etzion's new group, Hai V'kayam, were arrested for trying to pray on the Mount.

For security reasons, the police – in a long-standing policy upheld on several occasions by the High Court – only allow Moslems to worship on the Mount. Tensions are particularly high there now, with Ramadan starting next week.

"Our fight for the right to Jews to pray on the Temple Mount will continue in every way possible," Etzion said. "We will ignore the orders of the police and the government."

The two raised the suspicions of police at the Mugrabi Gate, but were allowed onto the Temple Mount, accompanied by a policeman, after saying they only wanted to tour the holy site.

But they pulled out *tallitot* and prayer books from under their shirts just outside Al-Aksa Mosque, and were immediately arrested.

Etzion was jailed in the early 1980s for planning to blow up Al-Aksa. He had largely kept out of public life after his release, until he recently launched his fight to allow Jews to pray on the Temple Mount.

Etzion said his followers would again try to pray on the Temple Mount during the Ramadan holiday, even though they know this will be seen as incitement by the Wakf and Moslem worshipers.

A young soldier gives a comrade's beret a last-minute adjustment before they are sworn in as paratroopers yesterday. Three of the 14 paratroopers killed in the Beit Lid bombing were to have taken part in the ceremony. (Brian Hendler)

Beit Lid blast victim makes surprising recovery

JUDY SIEGEL

A SOLDIER injured in the Beit Lid terrorist attack and believed to have suffered permanent brain damage was talking normally yesterday.

Neurosurgeons at Jerusalem's Hadassah-University Hospital, Ein Kerem said that Assaf Ben-Or, who regained consciousness Wednesday, suffers from little or no brain damage despite a number of fragments that had penetrated his skull.

Although he arrived Sunday in very serious condition, he is now in satisfactory condition and out of danger. A Hadassah spokesman noted that because most of the victims are young and in excellent physical condition, they tend to recover more quickly than the average person.

Twenty-one other bomb victims remain in seven hospitals around the country. One soldier at Hadassah is still unconscious and in very serious condition; another is in serious-but-stable condition with lung injuries and a third is in satisfactory condition.

Four victims are still at Hillel Yoffe Hospital in Hadera, with one in serious condition, one in satisfactory condition, and two with slight wounds. Kfar Sava's Meir Hospital reported five soldiers are still being treated, including one in very serious condition, one serious, one satisfactory and two slightly wounded.

Three are at Tel Hashomer's Sheba Hospital, one in serious condition, one satisfactory and a civilian with slight wounds. Laniado Hospital in Netanya has only one victim, Miriam Tzahor, who was in good condition yesterday.

Three soldiers are at Haifa's Rambam Hospital, one in serious but improving condition, another serious and another in satisfactory condition.

Beilinson is treating Bella Zioni, owner of the destroyed Beit Lid kiosk, who is in good condition, as is a soldier. Economics Minister Shimon Shetreet visited her yesterday and said she and her husband would be helped to reestablish their business.

Court delays expulsion of PLO major

EVELYN GORDON and news agencies

THE High Court of Justice yesterday issued an interim injunction to prevent the expulsion of a PLO major who has worked as one of Yasser Arafat's bodyguards.

Mohammed Jamil Isawi petitioned the court, arguing that he has a legal permit to visit his sister in Jerusalem and has committed no crime to justify his expulsion. The injunction will be in force until the final ruling on his petition.

Isawi also said that if expelled to Jordan, from where he came, he would almost certainly be thrown into jail there, because he has no residency permit.

Isawi, 36, is a former member of Arafat's elite bodyguard, known as Force 17. He is in jail in Jerusalem.

According to the petition, Isawi crossed the Allenby Bridge into Israel on December 6, on a 60-day visa. On January 16 he was arrested at the Erez checkpoint in Gaza, upon returning from a visit there, on the basis of an expulsion order issued the previous day.

Security sources said Isawi is being expelled for involvement in attacks on Israeli civilians before the Oslo Accords were signed. They also said he had apparently entered using a false name.

However, a copy of the visa issued by Israel, included in his petition, shows that it was issued under his real name.

The petition also noted that Isawi entered Israel on a temporary Jordanian passport, which identifies him as a Jordanian citizen. However, the petition said, he is actually a resident of Tunis, and this passport was granted him for the sole purpose of allowing him to visit Israel.

Isawi therefore asked the court, if it did not cancel the expulsion order, to expel him to Gaza instead. If this was also impossible, he asked the court to at least delay the expulsion until the Palestinian Authority could clarify his case with Israel.

Isawi is one of several Palestinian officers residing in Tunis whom Israel refused to permit to enter Gaza, his lawyer said, and the Palestinians have been negotiating to reverse this decision. In the meantime, they had asked that he be allowed to visit his sister, he said.

The official request for the permit, however, came from his sister in Jerusalem.

Palestinians said Israel had arrested the wrong man. They said the man Israel was seeking for attacks in the early 1980s had died abroad in 1989.

But they said Israel was not entitled to arrest and expel any Palestinian who entered the self-rule areas under the peace deal, even those involved in attacks that preceded its signing.

"If Isawi is expelled, it would constitute a dangerous precedent, because it means that any and all of the PLO cadres can be expelled," said Jihad Qirshali, a Fatah leader.

Search on for heart patients fitted with faulty pacemakers

JUDY SIEGEL

THE Health Ministry and the various hospitals are looking for 129 Israelis who have had pacemakers implanted since 1987 that are attached to faulty lead wires (electrodes) manufactured by the US company Telectronics.

According to the US Food and Drug Administration, which released an international warning this week, at least 1.6 percent of those with this type of lead wires are at risk of death or serious injury if the wire pops out of its plastic coating and punctures the heart wall.

Dr. Avi Livnat, head of the ministry's medical equipment department, said yesterday that records provided by Telectronics show that 129 have been implanted in patients here during the past eight years.

Livnat has lists of the hospitals, which have been asked to check their patient records to see in which patients the potentially dangerous wires were implanted, and to contact them.

Pacemakers issue small electric shocks to keep the heart of patients suffering from arrhythmia beating at a stable pace. The electrodes carry the current to the heart muscle. Telectronics' wires were not widely used here, said Livnat, because they were more expensive than those of other companies.

Some 25,000 Americans – and 40,500 patients worldwide – are believed to have the potentially faulty pacemaker wires in their chests. The wires could break among 12 percent of them, but not all of them will cause harm.

Any type of pacemaker could have been connected to the heart with the possibly faulty wires. The defective Telectronics models are the Accufix Atrial "J" lead wires of models 330-801, 329-701, 330-812 and 033-801. Two Americans with these models have died as a result of damage from the wires, raising the alarm for the FDA. In these cases, the unfortunate victims bled to death.

Soldier wounded in Lebanon still fighting for his life

DAVID RUDGE

A TENSE quiet reigned in south Lebanon yesterday, following violent clashes on Wednesday in which two IDF soldiers were wounded – one of them critically – and three Hizbullah gunmen were killed.

Liron Bainwall, 19, of Jerusalem, is still fighting for his life in Haifa's Rambam Hospital.

Deputy director Dr. Zvi Ben-Ishai said Bainwall, seriously wounded in the head, was in very grave condition.

Muhsan Barakat, 47, from Yerka, who commanded the trackers, is in Nahariya government hospital. He was said to be improving and was in satisfactory condition.

It is believed that the gunmen had intended to gather intelligence information about IDF and SLA movements in the area.

IDF and SLA troops remained on full alert in the security zone and long the northern border in case of any further attacks and infiltration attempts.

Meanwhile, a new terminal at the Biranit crossing point on the northern border, was inaugurated yesterday. The terminal, for residents of the zone wishing to enter and leave Israel, is to be manned by members of the SLA.

Contractor: Company knew building would not be allowed at Nebi Samwil

CONTRACTOR Shlomo Levy said yesterday that Shmaryahu Cohen, head of the Jerusalem district for the Housing Ministry, had explicitly told him prior to the purchase of plots on the southern slopes of Nebi Samwil that no building would be permitted there.

During cross-examination in Jerusalem District Court as part of the trial of Shas leader MK Aryeh Deri, Levy – a partner in the Moreshet Binyamin Housing Company which sought to build at the site – added that Cohen explained to him that the district planner opposed building at the site, but supported building elsewhere on the hill.

The prosecution has claimed that the company bought the plots despite knowing the area was to be declared an observation spot, and then bribed Deri and other officials to obtain alternative land. Levy's testimony backs up that argument.

Asked by Judge Miriam Naor why the company bought plots of land it knew it could not build on, Levy said he did so to prevent other companies from gaining control of plots in the area where Midreshet Binyamin hoped to build. (Itim)

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Chinese satellite explodes

News agencies

BEIJING

A rocket bearing a US-made satellite exploded shortly after launch yesterday in the latest setback for China's bid to become a major player in the commercial satellite business.

The Long March-2 rocket lifted off at about 6:38 a.m. from the Xichang Satellite Launching Center in Sichuan province, about 2,100 km southwest of Beijing.

Less than two minutes after clearing the launch pad, the satellite and rocket exploded into bright red flames, illuminated against the still-black sky.

The failed launch for the Hong Kong-based APT Satellite Co. is the latest in a string of complications in China's efforts to enter the commercial satellite launching industry.

An Australian communications satellite exploded shortly after its December 1992 launch, and other launches had to be canceled.

Yesterday's launch was broadcast live on national television.

Scientists and technicians were heard shouting unintelligibly at the command center.

A few minutes later, a reporter said, "As everyone has just seen from the screen, our launch of the Apstar-2 satellite for the APT Satellite Co. was not successful because of an accident.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Shen Guofang told reporters yesterday that the cause of the explosion and damage were under investigation.

Meanwhile in Russia, President Boris Yeltsin said yesterday he had used his hot-line link to his generals when Norway fired a scientific missile that sparked a major security alert in Russia.

In comments to Interfax news agency, Yeltsin also suggested that NATO-member Norway and its Western defense partners may have been trying to test Russia's military readiness.

"I indeed yesterday used for the first time my 'black' suitcase with the button which is always carried with me," Yeltsin said referring to Wednesday's incident.

"I linked up instantly with the minister of defense, with all those military leader-generals whom I need, and we tracked the path of this rocket from beginning to end."

Yeltsin did not challenge Norway's official explanation that the missile, which came down in the sea off Spitzbergen more than 1,000 km from the Russian mainland, was a research rocket fired under a scientific program partly funded by the US space agency NASA.

Referring to the Norwegians, Yeltsin said: "They, of course, did not expect us to spot it because the rocket was not so big, but we spotted it straightaway and determined the place where it came down – a good enough distance from our shores."

"There must be a real communication gap here," said Norwegian foreign ministry spokesman Ingvard Havnen in Oslo. "We have asked our Moscow ambassador to contact Russian authorities to find out what happened in order to avoid a recurrence of such incidents."

Oslo wants its embassy to find out why Russia apparently did not know that the research rocket was going to be launched.

Havnen said Oslo followed normal procedure in informing foreign embassies, including Russia's, about the peaceful launch from the northern Andoya range.

Russian soldiers listen to one of their comrades play guitar in a tent at the Beslan army base in Ossetia on Wednesday. (AP)

Civilians continue fleeing Grozny

MAXIM KORZHOV

GROZNY

CIVILIANS living in the southern part of Grozny fled the Chechen capital yesterday using cars, horse-drawn carriages or just walking to escape intensive shelling by Russian forces.

The Oktyabrsky and Chernorechensky districts, the last more or less surviving residential areas in southern Grozny have become too dangerous to live in because of the relentless bombing and pounding of artillery.

"It was a hell, just a hell," 69-year-old Maria Pavlova said after overnight bombing in the Oktyabrsky district where she lives.

Russian troops also continued heavy rocket, artillery and mortar fire on villages surrounding the battered Chechen capital.

Two Mi-24 Russian helicopters fired rockets at the village of Alkhan-Yurt five km north of Grozny, setting an oil refinery on fire. Heavy billows of smoke could be seen for 40 km.

The village of Alkhan-Kala, which lies on a key road about 15 km southwest of Grozny, also was heavily shelled.

President Boris Yeltsin, speaking on a trip to the city of Lipetsk, said yesterday that his government is working to ensure a peaceful solution to the conflict.

Commenting on world reaction to the war, Yeltsin was quoted by ITAR-Tass as saying: "The United States treated the events in Chechnya calmly, in a reserved way like a partner should do. Unfortunately, not everybody behaves in such a way."

Pavlova hid for two weeks in a Russian Orthodox church not far from the presidential palace before she decided it was time to get out of the city.

"It took me three days to get away from the center, spending nights in basements. It is horrible, what they have done to the city," she said, calling it worse than her experience in the siege of Stalingrad in World War II.

Pavlova wore an old gray coat and scarf. As she spoke, standing at a crossroads about 20 km from Grozny, aircraft droned overhead. She was desperate to get to neighboring Ingushetia.

"I never thought I would have to relive all that horror again," she said.

While many Grozny residents still say they don't want to leave the capital for fear of losing their apartments, it's too late for Abubaker Akhtoyev.

"My house was bombed yesterday, and now I have nothing to do here," he said yesterday, trying to flag down a car leaving the city.

Not far away, about 10 people pulled a sleigh carrying the body of a fellow Chechen fighter. The Chechens said they were standing near the market talking about a half-hour earlier when he was shot.

"The bullet got him right in the head," Marta Suleimnova, 24, said sadly. "It must have been Russian snipers – it could not have been Chechens."

EU police to fight terrorism

PARIS (AP) – European Union justice and interior ministers yesterday neared agreement that a future European police agency should fight terrorism.

Britain, which had been hesitant, changed its stance and agreed to include terrorism in the mandate of the proposed agency, to be known as Europol, officials said.

However, they said Europol – to be based in The Hague, Netherlands – would only become active in counter-terrorism two years after its creation. The EU's 15 members continue to bicker over details of its purpose and its powers.

French, which took over the EU's rotating six-month presidency this month, has led opposition to Germany's attempt to create a powerful joint police force that would combat international crime with help from police databases in each country.

The French, backed by Britain, Spain, Italy and some other members, want sharing of police data to be more restricted. Yesterday's closed-door meeting was intended to find a compromise.

French Interior Minister Charles Pasqua briefed his colleagues on a meeting last week of top security officials from France, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Tunisia and Algeria.

Those talks in Tunis focused on the threats of terrorism and violence stemming from the rise of militant Moslem fundamentalism in the region, particularly Algeria.

French officials hopes to gain sympathy and support from other European countries as they crack down on fundamentalist sympathizers in France and seek tighter control of immigration.

O.J. prosecutors outraged over defense surprises

LOS ANGELES (AP) – Defense witnesses who claim they can clear former football great O.J. Simpson of murder charges include heroin addicts, thieves, and a "pathological liar," a prosecutor said yesterday.

A dispute over last-minute defense witnesses and the sudden illness of a prosecutor threw the trial into turmoil, and delayed the rest of the defense's opening statement.

Arguing to delay the trial to give them time to investigate the witnesses, prosecutors bitterly questioned their honesty and accused the defense of misconduct. A defense lawyer countered that "they cannot shut me up."

Without the jury present, Deputy District Attorney Christopher Darden said that if prosecutors had known about the witnesses sooner, they could have told the defense "that they are heroin addicts thieves, felons, and that one of these witnesses, one of their so-called material witnesses, is the only person I have ever known to be a court-certified pathological liar."

Cochran responded: "It was really sad the way they were jumping up and down... They're so rattled... I don't think a thinking lawyer would make those kind of statements about a citizen, whomever it is, and if they don't know who those witnesses are, how do they know all those things?"

Judge Lance Ito gave the prosecution until yesterday afternoon to submit arguments on the late witnesses and tell what sanctions or other remedies they were proposing.

Ito said the prosecution also needed time to "regroup" after the illness of Deputy District Attorney William Hodgman, who remained hospitalized in good condition yesterday after complaining of chest pains after Wednesday's session.

On Wednesday, Hodgman expressed outrage when Cochran, while claiming that prosecutors ignored evidence in their rush to incriminate Simpson, mentioned witnesses and evidence to the jury without giving proper warning to prosecutors.

Hodgman repeatedly objected during Cochran's opening statement. Then he accused defense attorneys of suddenly unloading the information in a last-minute ambush. Both sides are legally required to share information in a timely manner.

Cochran responded that the prosecution was overreacting and suggested that if prosecutors were better prepared for trial they wouldn't have needed the information turned over late by the defense.

"It's not misconduct at all," said Cochran. "Now they want to get in our briefcases. They would come home with us if they could. This is a stall.

"They cannot shut me up, your honor."

In his comments to the jury Wednesday, Cochran revealed details of the defense strategy for the first time.

Countering prosecution allegations that Simpson stalked and beat his ex-wife, Cochran portrayed Simpson as a generous, caring family man. He also painted Simpson as an ex-athlete so hampered by football injuries that he was physically incapable of the crimes.

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Zimbabwe doctor jailed amid 'Nazi' accusations

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) – A white doctor accused of experimenting on blacks was taken to jail yesterday to begin a six-month sentence for manslaughter in the deaths of two patients.

Dr. Richard McGown, an anesthesiologist, bowed his head and grimaced as Judge Paddington Garwe refused to grant him bail pending an appeal application.

McGown, 58, grasped at the hand of his wife, Sheena, as a court orderly led him down steps to basement cells in the Harare High Court.

The doctor's lawyers said they would immediately seek an appeal in the Supreme Court – the nation's highest court – against McGown's conviction for causing two deaths due to professional negligence.

If the Supreme Court agrees to hear an appeal, the lawyers would again seek bail for McGown, attorney Mark Stonier said.

The case raised racial tensions between blacks and the nation's 100,000 whites after politicians last year likened McGown to a Nazi death camp doctor and accused him of testing the tolerance of blacks to morphine used in anesthesia.

In his five-week trial that ended last August, McGown admitted using differing doses of morphine when administering anesthesia to five patients who died between 1988 and 1992. He said he did so to alleviate pain.

A small group of black students gathered outside the courthouse to await Garwe's bail verdict yesterday and dispersed before McGown boarded a prison truck.

"The sentence was too light, but we expected that. We are pleased to see him go to the cells," said student leader Larry Chakaredza.

After sentencing black militants threatened street protests against what they saw as a lenient six-month jail term.

McGown was convicted of manslaughter for what Garwe called gross negligence in two cases. He let a 20-month-old Asian toddler go home after administering a high dose of morphine for a circumcision operation. The toddler developed respiratory problems and choked on his own vomit.

The other case was a 10-year-old black girl who died after receiving a high dose of morphine for an appendectomy.

Garwe sentenced him to one year in jail, six months suspended, for the toddler's death and fined him $2,000 for the black girl's death.

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The Journalist
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The Family

Doctor: Torturers hiding damage well

LONDON (Reuter) – Torturers have developed very good ways of hiding the damage to their victims, sometimes leaving no visible scars, a British doctor said yesterday.

Dr. Duncan Forrest of the Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture in London said some police in India were especially good at hiding their work.

He said he had examined 31 Indian Sikhs who said they had been tortured. They had no obvious scars, but he found considerable physical and mental damage.

"All claimed to have been beaten by police with an assortment of weapons, including fists, boots, lathis (bamboo canes), leather belts with metal buckles, leather straps with wooden handles (patta) or rifle butts," Forrest wrote in the *Lancet* medical journal.

"In addition, 18 reported being beaten while suspended off the ground by the wrists or ankles and 15 were given electric shocks either with a magneto (small generator) or from a mains socket."

Forrest, whose group examines and treats up to 3,000 torture victims a year, said police seemed aware of the need to prevent obvious, visible injury with people due to appear in court.

He said it was unreasonable to demand asylum-seekers show scars to prove torture.

"Although the police are cautious about causing visible scarring, they do not always avoid more insidious damage," he added, referring to a report from Kashmir about 10 cases of kidney failure due to beatings.

Forrest said the Indian torturers had developed unique ways of tormenting their victims. One method involved overstretching the hips by forcing a man onto the ground with his legs spread.

"This torture was often done with the victim sitting on the floor with a policeman behind him pulling his head back by the hair while pressing a knee into his back. Twenty-two men reported this torture," Forrest wrote.

They also used a thick wooden roller called a ghotna to damage legs without bruising or scars, Forrest said. Such methods are subtle but cause permanent damage.

"The most common complaint was of pain on walking, principally in those who had had abduction of the hips and/or application of the roller." Other men had blurred vision, overstretched muscles and damaged joints.

"Features of post-traumatic stress disorder included loss of concentration and memory, intrusive thoughts, flashbacks, panic attacks and, especially, recurrent nightmares reproducing events experienced during detention."

In the Middle East torturers beat victims on the soles of their feet – another method calculated to leave no marks, Forrest added in a telephone interview.

But he said in Africa torturers seemed less worried about leaving scars. "The presidential guard are the usual ones in Zaire – there is a special belt they use to whip people which has a metal buckle."

Rash of suicide attempts reported in Kobe

KOBE (Reuter) – Kobe police yesterday reported several suicide attempts among Japan's earthquake refugees, many of whom not only lost relatives but suffered financial disaster because they had no insurance.

The suicides led city authorities to set up counseling centers in the western Japanese port where at least 5,079 people were killed, 26,618 injured and 300,000 made homeless by the earthquake.

"There is the possibility of a chain reaction of suicides," said psychiatrist Akira Yamakami of the Tokyo Medical University, a member of a team of advisors to Kobe authorities on stress.

"The absence of privacy in refugee camps is going to sharply increase the stress people are already under because of the loss of homes and loved ones," he said.

"We started counselling because the refugees are expected to stay in camps for a long time," said Yasuhiko Nishimura of the Kyogo prefecture.

"The survivors can't help but become uneasy when they start to think about their loved ones, and lost homes and jobs," he said.

"We must help them out before their mental condition reaches the critical point."

Police said that so far this week, two people had committed suicide and there had been at least three other suicide attempts linked to the January 17 earthquake.

In both suicides, the victims hanged themselves in the debris of their own homes.

In the failed attempt, a couple and their daughter slashed their wrists after discovering that their home had been flattened.

With high premiums for earthquake insurance, many of Kobe's 1.5 million residents did not buy cover in a region rarely hit by tremors this century.

Press reports estimate that only about three percent of people who lost their homes were covered by earthquake insurance.

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19 MORE VICTIMS OF PEACE THIS WEEK – 123 ISRAELIS MURDERED SINCE OSLO

HOW MANY MORE BEFORE *YOU* END THIS NIGHTMARE?

"I have stated that I totally and utterly reject Peres and consider his rise to prominence a malignant, immoral disgrace. I will rend my clothes in mourning for the State if I see him become a minister in the Israeli government."

MOSHE SHARETT

Personal Diary 1957
Vol. 8, p. 2301
Moshe Sharett was a former Israeli Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs Minister

Almost 40 years ago, Moshe Sharett predicted the destruction of the State of Israel if Peres became a government minister. Today, Peres and his small band (Yossi Beilin, Uri Savir, Colette Avital) - along with its figurehead Rabin - are leading the country into chaos, with no one opposing them or objecting. The only persons who speak the truth are Sheikh Yassin and Yasser Arafat when they say, "It all belongs to us." Jerusalem belongs to them, Jaffa belongs to them - all land and property in Eretz Israel is registered in their names - and our leadership apologizes for still living here in Israel.

This cannot continue. Where are the Eretz Israel faithful in the Labor Party? Why do the Jewish people stand by idly while Jerusalem and the whole Land of Israel is slipping out of our hands?

If something drastic is not done immediately, tomorrow will be too late!

If you support our position, cut out the coupon and send it, with a generous contribution to help us continue in our struggle, to:
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Isaac Harari

MESSAGE TO THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL

No Jew has the right to yield the rights of the Jewish people in Israel.

No Jew has the authority to do so. No Jewish body has the authority to do so.

Not even the entire Jewish people alive today has the authority to yield any part of Israel.

It is the right of the Jewish people over generations, a right which under no condition can be canceled.

Even if Jews in a specific period proclaim they are relinquishing this right, they have neither the power nor the authority to deny this right to future generations. No concession of this type is binding or obligates the Jewish people.

Our right to the country - to the entire country - exists as an eternal right, and until the full and complete redemption is realized, we shall not yield our historic right.

David Ben-Gurion
(speech at Basle Zionist Congress, 1937)

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Rabin's scapegoat

MORE and more frequently, intelligence experts refer to the developing situation in the self-rule areas as a Lebanonization. This is obviously not what the government expected when the Oslo agreement was signed. It seemed convinced that the withdrawal of the army from Gaza and Jericho would be followed by an orderly takeover by the Palestinian Authority. And if rejectionist elements opposed to the agreement made trouble, the Palestinian Police, unfettered by courts and human rights organizations, would take care of them. In fact, the reason for allowing the police force to be disproportionately large – up to 9,000 men – was that it would need to be strong to combat terrorism.

What has happened instead is that the police force, now numbering 15,000, has become Yasser Arafat's militia, while other militias have been formed by Hamas, Islamic Jihad and the PLO radicals. They live side by side, competing for popularity. But they are not at war with each other.

Not that there were no armed groups in Gaza before the Israeli army left. But now they are far better equipped and organized. The land and sea smuggling routes from Egypt, virtually inactive when Israel ruled the area, are now bustling. And with the authority's tacit approval, the smugglers have turned the Strip into a huge arms cache.

Terrorists who a year ago used primitive, home-made bombs now have sophisticated TNT explosives and other standard military materiel. Rocket launchers, mortars and perhaps even Katyushas have already been brought in, according to former intelligence officer Rafi Eitan. And unless Israel does something about it, the weapons will rapidly increase in numbers and sophistication.

Nor is terrorism the only threat to the personal safety of Israelis. The still incomplete electronic fence around the Gaza District has proved a woefully inadequate barrier. Gaza-based criminal activity against Negev communities has increased significantly, from the theft of vehicles (over 30,000 a year) to extensive burglaries in the agricultural sector. The vicious cycle of terrorist acts followed by closures exacerbates economic hardships, which in turn leads to more criminal activity.

Eitan foresees growing chaos in the country and even vigilante action against the terrorists unless the security services take the offensive. But for the army to do what it must do, the Oslo agreement must be repudiated.

Indeed, only the difficulty politicians have in admitting error prevents the government from announcing such a repudiation. If Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin meant what he said when he first revealed the Declaration of Principles to the nation – that "Gaza and Jericho First" was an experiment to test Palestinian intentions and conduct – he can, with a clear conscience, declare that the Palestinians have flunked the test and Israel must reconsider its next moves.

What he surely must *not* do is float inane panaceas like the "separation" idea, or use the settlers for a scapegoat, as he did yesterday in a speech to the Labor Party political bureau. What makes the war against terrorism so difficult now, and what has tripled the number of its victims since the Oslo agreement is not the invincibility of suicide bombers, nor the need to give settlers' children military escort. It is the proliferation of arms in Gaza and Jericho, the terrorists' ability to organize and train unmolested under the auspices of the Palestinian Authority, their access to foreign resources, and the release of experienced cadres from Israeli prisons.

One should like to hope that Rabin does not truly believe that abandoning all the settlements ("which do not contribute one iota to Israel's security," as he put it) would pacify the PLO, Islamic Jihad and Hamas. For if he does, he is still a captive of the kind of delusion which made the Oslo disaster possible.

Holocaust denial week

AS if this week's commemoration of the liberation of Auschwitz was not enough to silence Holocaust deniers, Israel has been forced to protest strongly to the owners of a Japanese current affairs magazine for running an incredible article under the headline "There were no Nazi gas chambers."

Marco Polo is a small circulation, but allegedly serious, monthly magazine put out by Bungeishunju-sha, a major Japanese publisher supposedly espousing democratic right-of-center views. Adding insult to serious injury, the magazine actually offered its trash to "mark" the Auschwitz liberation anniversary.

The blurb introducing the piece promised readers "a new historic truth" and went on: "The greatest taboo of postwar history is being kept a secret...there are major suspicions concerning the 'Holocaust' (sic) and the massacre of Jews at the hands of the Nazis...there is scant evidence that so many Jews could be killed in gas chambers."

The revisionist rubbish was penned by one Dr. Masanori Nishioka, member of a self-appointed study group devoted to revisionist historical theories. A *Jerusalem Post* correspondent in Tokyo tells us that Nishioka had previously gained some eccentric notoriety as an indefatigable writer of letters denouncing the Holocaust to English-language dailies.

That some eccentric crackpot should be given space to peddle his nonsense in a "current affairs" magazine read by a quarter of a million presumably intellectual Japanese is amazing enough. Even more amazing, our correspondent says, an Israeli diplomat who went to protest to the editors emerged seething with frustration and anger, saying he was "ready for war" after being stonewalled at a fruitless meeting. "It's a crime," the diplomat said. "In Germany people who publish such deeply offensive material face criminal prosecution."

Further investigation has revealed that Nishioka is a physician, who not only has no credentials as a historian or journalist, but who blows his medical trumpet to lend "credibility" to his theories. In the magazine article, Nishioka tells readers to "forget anything else you may have read, forget official history, ignore *Schindler's List*, and learn the new truth." Thus, in his own words he has unwittingly defined the lie-making technique of all revisionism – for his fabrications are not new, but a rehash of the discredited garbage of his British and French counterparts.

Unfortunately, Holocaust revisionism has already generated a tide of historical corruption that is a crime against the dead, an insult to the survivors, a danger to future generations, and a branding of the liberators of the death camps as liars. For this reason, Jewish and other organizations have urged widespread publicity for this story and begun a campaign to strangle *Marco Polo* by lobbying its advertisers to stay away. Volkswagen's chairman Ferdinand Piech has already declared himself "appalled and angered" and suspended all future advertising in *Marco Polo*.

This international intellectual cancer must be halted by every legitimate means possible. It is high time the Japanese government acted to curb the country's unbridled antisemitic publications. There is, of course, no comparison between the enormity of the Holocaust and the atomic bombing of Japan. But it is not difficult to imagine how Japan would react to a revisionist campaign to prove that Hiroshima and Nagasaki never happened.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

OBTRUSIVE PHOTOGRAPHER

Sir, – Gunshots and death are bad enough on our roads, but as the doctors were trying to bring Ofra Felix back to life at the scene of the murder, a rude and aggressive news photographer interfered and refused to leave. The result was a nasty brawl between him, Jewish security officers and officials.

I agree that journalists have an important job to record and communicate news throughout the world, but it is secondary to the medical profession. Doctors and medics require maximum quiet and privacy, even at newsworthy events.

Journalists and fellow readers, I am certain that if you were the patient, you wouldn't want your doctor distracted by a camera or a curious eye. And if you were the patient, whether conscious, unconscious or clinically dead, you wouldn't want your "private parts" photographed and publicized by the international media.

BATYA MEDAD

Shiloh.

SHAME!

Sir, – On January 23, you published a photograph of an 82-year-old woman being dragged away by the police. Together with other women, including the founders of the Women In Green, this elderly lady was considered a danger to Israeli society, and the police were obviously following instructions laid down from above. "Illegal assembly" is a heinous crime, especially when the people involved are Jews and women.

How ironic that on a day when Holocaust survivors were assembling to see a railway cattle wagon suspended over a precipice, an elderly lady who was concerned at the danger facing our people and country was dragged away in a manner reminiscent of stormtroopers.

ANNE KAYE

Upper Nazareth.

FIRE THE DEFENSE MINISTER

Sir, – Prime Minister Rabin's speech on television January 23 was not enough to reassure the people of Israel. The public expects someone to take the blame for the massacre at Beit Lid.

My suggestion is that the prime minister fire the person responsible for the security of all the people in Israel – the defense minister.

JACK DE LOWE

Ra'anana.

CARTOONISTS

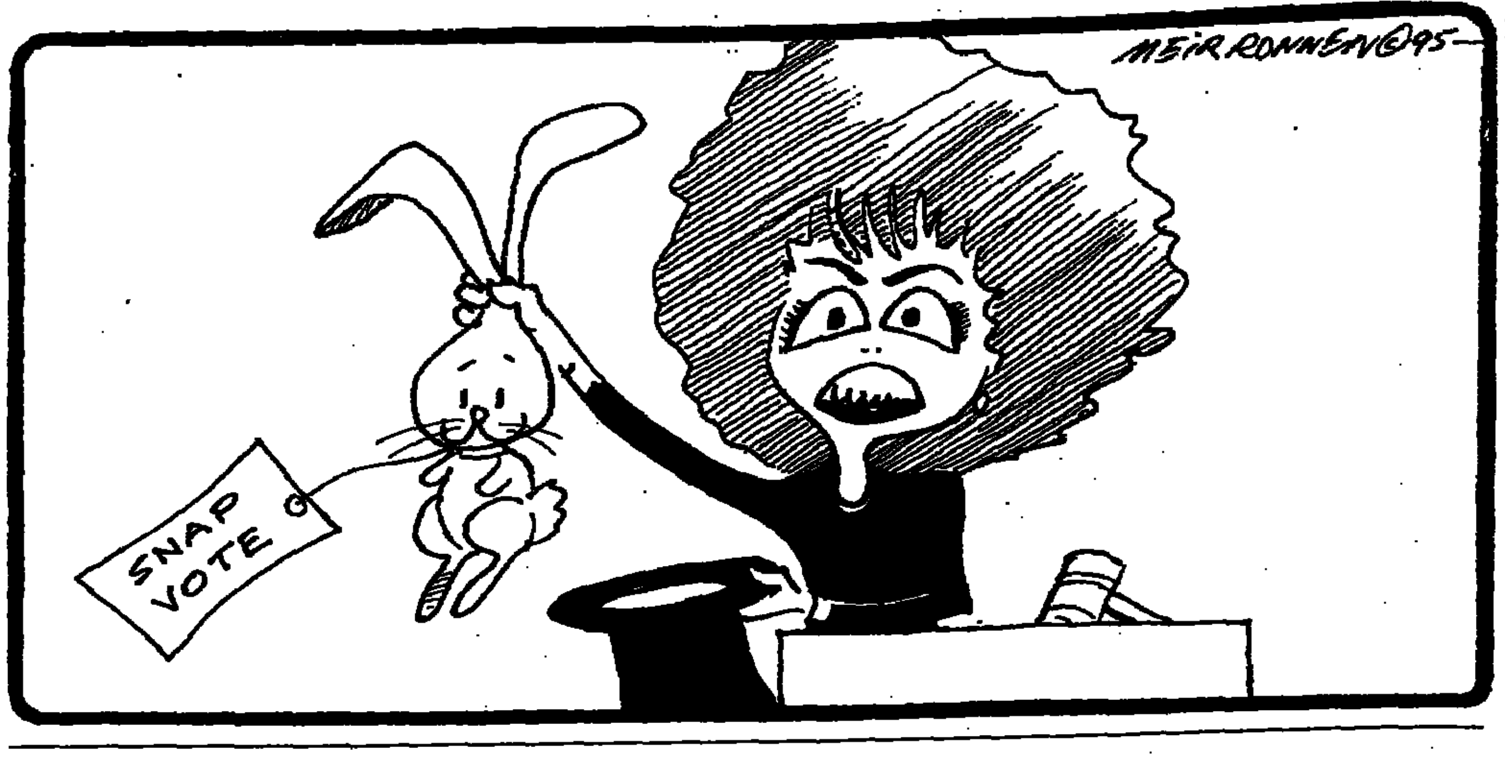
Sir, – Hetty Mahler (Letters, January 19) finds that Oleg draws "slanderous caricatures."

Without knowing the esteemed gentleman in question, let me say that his cartoons are incisive, witty, brilliant, and strike home at the very core of the problem he tackles. He is comparable to the best of Dosh – and this the best compliment that I can pay an Israeli cartoonist.

HARRY ABRAMS

Givatayim.

'What's all the fuss about?'



Excess zeal can be dangerous

CHAIM HERZOG

Are restrictions on the security service stopping it from doing a vital job?

THE phenomenon of suicide bombers would have plagued us with Oslo or without it, for the main target of Islamic terror is not the peace process.

This was made clear by a Hamas leader quoted by Reuters this week. The group's purpose, he said, is simply to wipe out the Jewish presence in this country. As long as even one Jew remains alive in Tel Aviv, the terrorists believe, they will have failed.

The peace process, on the other hand, creates the possibility that an important part of the Arab population will opt solidly for peace out of self-interest. If this element is sincere and determined to support the process, a strategic advantage, lacking over the past 100 years of struggle, is created.

Let us not deprive ourselves of this strategic advantage too lightly. We have to pursue the struggle, at times with greater sophistication than before.

Practical steps can be taken.

It is essential that exposed, disorganized concentrations of soldiers traveling to and from home be minimized. If there must be large concentrations, presenting an attractive target, those responsible should impose proper discipline and apply sophisticated security methods, explosive-sniffing dogs, for example. Above all, it is time the army ran its own bus service throughout the country.

I don't see any alternative, in the light of the nature of a lunatic terrorist organization, to lengthening the period of administrative arrest for any members of Hamas or Islamic Jihad. It might also help if every suicide bomber were to be aware that while he himself might attain Paradise, his entire family will be sent into exile.

THIS BRINGS up the organization responsible for the main struggle against terrorists, the General Security Service, which has achieved impressive results over the years.

While all sensible citizens know that the work of the GSS is vital for our security, only two weeks ago a main subject of public comment in the media was how to restrict its activities. This discussion was grossly unfair to the entire organization.

The media highlighted one comment in a recent speech by former Supreme Court Justice Moshe Landau, who said in connection with the arrest and imprisonment of two GSS men, "I felt betrayed."

Several years ago, Justice Landau had headed a state commission to lay down interrogation procedures for the GSS, and felt that his recommendations had been ignored. However, he said he later learned that his recommendations would take much longer to put into practice than he had anticipated, and was convinced things were moving in the right direction.

In his speech, Landau also emphasized that the purpose of the security services is to prevent terror, and remarked caustically that he had been attacked for observing in the report of his committee that there are times "when it is impossible to avoid the use of moderate physical pressure on the suspect being questioned."

Recent tragic events only reemphasize that we are in the midst of a difficult and cruel struggle in our effort to live securely in this country. Landau emphasizes that there is not a single country of moral standing in the world today which has gone to the same limits as the State of Israel to investigate and monitor the operating methods of its secret services.

The question we, the ordinary citizens, protected day in, day out by the security services, must ask ourselves is: Have we not, in our zeal for excellence, gone too far in imposing restrictions on the GSS, thus creating obstacles which hinder its activities?

Of course there must be supervision. In line with the Landau Commission's recommendations, a ministerial committee, headed by the prime minister, was set up to deal with the specific issue of GSS interrogations.

Furthermore, there is constant supervision by a special subcommittee of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. And the GSS operates under the watchful eyes of the minister of justice, the attorney-general, the state attorney, and the official responsible for dealing with the complaints of those who have been interrogated, not to mention the state comptroller. We now face debate on a proposed General Security Service Law. As far as I know, Britain is the only country which has such a law.

I have no argument with the spirit and content of the law, but it seems to me that our national priorities have become mixed up, and that this may not be exactly the time to expose the GSS to additional public debate. Islamic terror, after all is said and done, is the greatest danger facing the free world and threatening our very existence.

I can but reiterate the views that I have always expressed, especially on the occasion of the celebrated pardons granted to the security service in 1986 – an act which has been vindicated time and again as absolutely justified. The employees of the GSS are outstanding, devoted public servants.

I have no doubt but that the public atmosphere surrounding the service, sometimes created for positive motives, is causing a highly unpleasant situation, and gnawing away at the motivation of its employees. Let us think for a moment about the individual GSS member, who endangers his life daily to defend each and every one of us, and is so frequently characterized as a violent sadist.

Surely the time has come, in the light of the cruel realities facing us, to help and encourage the GSS in its struggle for our security and for our future in this country.

In most civilized countries, this subject is rarely discussed publicly. Are we so secure, is the situation so satisfactory, that we can indulge in this luxury?

The writer was the country's sixth president.

The mad scramble to create facts

CHAIA BECKERMAN

The battle over 'Greater Jerusalem' is tragic for the city itself

THE long-term significance of the current controversy over "Greater Jerusalem" lies in its consequences for the city. They will remain as incontrovertible "facts" long after today's players and factions are lost in the vastness of Jerusalem's history.

Rhetoric and slogans about the Jewish character of the city abound, but no one is talking about what is good for the city. Despite the commitment reiterated at Sunday's cabinet meeting to the "development and prosperity of Jerusalem and the welfare of all its residents," when plans are made for an urban environment on the basis of narrowly conceived political considerations – and these have been the predominant criteria since the British left town – the city and its residents suffer.

With each built-up dunam added to the periphery, a bit more of Jerusalem's integrity is sacrificed on the altar of political interest. Israelis and Palestinians alike scramble to create facts on the ground, through building and planting, a process documented by geographer Shaul Cohen in the recently published *Politics of Planting*.

Given its greater decision-making power and control of resources, Israel's changes are massive and jarring. Palestinian changes are less so, but still highly problematic. For while Israel systematically drags its feet about providing zoning regulations and master plans in the Arab areas, building is taking place without adequate provision for infrastructure: roads, sewers, electricity, etc.

Israeli observers, speaking off the record, recently termed the impending consequences of this race to secure land a "tragedy" and an "urban nightmare."

But even many Israelis who oppose the particular Greater Jerusalem concept leave unchallenged the notion that a sprawling Jerusalem is in Israel's interest.

While the right wing seeks to incorporate nearby Jewish settlements, liberals counter with proposals for westward expansion. And Israelis even further to the left, along with many Palestinians, have seen enlarged borders as a way of achieving parity between the populations in a future Jerusalem that serves as a capital for Israel and Palestine alike.

With such political considerations paramount, almost no one looks at the ecological implications. The voices of city planners, like former city councillor Sarah Kaminker, who protest that Jerusalem is not served by expansion, go unheard.

MOREOVER, incorporating neighboring towns into Jerusalem addresses demographic and political concerns at the expense of both the city's integrity and that of the outlying municipalities in question.

Jerusalem's meaning to the Jewish people is vested in its center, not in the already ludicrously gerrymandered municipal boundaries that zone in Arab village lands, while zoning out their populations.

How is the character of this core city – that which the name Jerusalem calls to mind – enhanced by swallowing suburbs the size of Mevasseret Zion or massive satellite settlements such as Ma'aleh Adumim, to say nothing of Arab cities? Gush Etzion has a quality of its own, that derives in part from its place in recent Jewish history; but that doesn't make it Jerusalem.

The Jewish character of the city rests in sites and symbols, from the Western Wall to the Knesset, that aren't going anywhere even if the Palestinians get a state, even if they call Jerusalem their capital as well.

The Jewish character of Jerusalem requires the presence of Jews living lives that exemplify Jewish ideals, and not the xenophobia that has typified Jerusalem's history.

Zionism at its best is about the ability to celebrate the quintessential Jewish experience, the liberation from Egypt, here. It is being able, each Passover, to say the words "Next year in Jerusalem" in Jerusalem itself.

But to be at home in Jerusalem also means taking a walk on the Haas Promenade and hearing the call of the muezzin echoing from village to village across the valley during Ramadan – a reminder that the character of Jerusalem is reflected in all its faces.

To identify exclusively with the Jewish character of Jerusalem is to give up on calling one's own the sights, sounds, and scents of a great Islamic city.

There are, of course, realpolitik reasons to question the value of a Greater Jerusalem, the peace process foremost among them.

To know Palestinians is to know that Jews have no monopoly on fears about homelessness and displacement. Wednesday's decision to authorize building up Jerusalem-area settlements in the present atmosphere shows bad faith where confidence-building measures – mutual, of course – are badly needed.

As our politicians seek once again to make the capital a pawn in their political maneuvers, it behooves us to remember the words of the Psalmist, "to seek the peace of Jerusalem." This does not refer only to peace in Jerusalem, but also to securing the city's welfare and integrity.

The writer is head of publications at a Jerusalem research institute.

POSTSCRIPTS

THE BRIDE wore white. Lots and lots of white.

Wearing a wedding gown weighing 218 kg (480 pounds) and fanning out 13 meters (39 feet) with lace and bows, 25-year-old Maria Rosaria Lembo of Caserta, Italy, was wheeled to the altar on a platform pulled by an off-road vehicle.

The spectacle was denounced as a "disgusting display" by the bishop of Caserta, who called the event a "scandalous thing" that created "class divisions" in the church.

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هكذا من الاصل

The full memory

MARVIN HIER

A few years ago, a prominent Holocaust survivor in Los Angeles told me that he took exception to the recent trend of Holocaust remembrances, where the focus is on heroic individuals such as Oskar Schindler and Raoul Wallenberg. His point was not that they are undeserving of our eternal gratitude and honor. His fear was that young people might come to believe that the relatively few practitioners of righteous conduct were the dominant characters of the Holocaust.

Today, survivors and world leaders are gathering at Auschwitz to commemorate the 50th anniversary of its liberation. Undoubtedly, for most of the participants who personally experienced the horrors, this will be their last gathering. Future anniversaries will now pass to the next generation.

If only the Schindlers and the Wallenbergs are remembered, we shall have reached the point of the Holocaust revisionists

What kind of memory will they inherit? Will it be a memory reduced to a sound bite? Or will they have an understanding of the *machinery that made* possible the horrors of Auschwitz?

Will the memory include Hitler's early writings in *Mein Kampf*, explaining what would happen to the Jews if he took power? Will the next generation remember Hitler's use of the legal system to bar Jews from German society? Or the infamous Concordat, which the Vatican signed with Hitler's Third Reich in 1933?

And what about the 1938 *Evian Con*ference, where international delegates refused to open their doors to the desperate refugees?

What about the secret Wannsee Conference of 1942? Will students from Sioux City, Peoria, or even Los Angeles know that 11 different branches of the German government were represented at that meeting where plans were finalized to exterminate an entire people?

Or will the next *generation's view* of the Holocaust be reduced to a brief classroom discussion about an important book or film, where, inevitably, the few heroes manage to rise above the evil around them and stand up for human dignity? If that is all our students come away with, then *I'm* afraid my friend's fear is quite justifiable.

FOR IN the end, if the Shoah is limited to the courage of a Schindler or a Wallenberg, then we have arrived at the same point as the Holocaust revisionists. To them, there was no Auschwitz, *because decent German people* wouldn't have allowed it. And for our students, there would be no real Auschwitz, because the righteous prevented the Jews from getting there.

But unfortunately, most of the Jews destined for Auschwitz did get there – and were murdered.

Close to 5 billion people now inhabit our planet. It can be said with certainty that only a small percentage will ever visit Auschwitz or a *Holocaust museum*. More than likely, their exposure will be limited to a movie they watch in *school or at home*.

The reality is that most people will never be exposed to the Holocaust's central lesson – that a civilized society voluntarily turned itself into an evil one; that lawyers and judges lied and cheated; that teachers distinguished between Aryans and non-Aryans, teaching their students that "thou shalt not kill" *did* not apply to *"untermenschen."*

Of course, we should honor those *who attempted to shine some light* in those long black nights. But we must insist that, essentially, there was nothing heroic about the Holocaust; that there were far more villains than saints, far more experts at closing doors than people brave enough to open them.

So every time we recall the defiance of the few, we must be vigilant never to forget the silence of the many, the thousands who betrayed their neighbors to *the Gestapo, and the hundreds* of train operators who took their unsuspecting victims to the death camps, never questioning their mission or having second thoughts about herding off generations of men, women and children to hell.

Only the full memory does justice to the victims of the Holocaust and may be strong enough to protect our grandchildren from another Final Solution.

The writer is dean and founder of the Los Angeles-based Simon Wiesenthal Center.

(Los Angeles Times)

Others' suffering

YOSEF GOELL

THE current debate in the Education Ministry on how to teach the Holocaust is an extension of an older clash between the view of the Holocaust as a unique event, the culmi*nation of 2,000 years of murderous* antisemitism, and a universalistic perception which places it in a broader, general context of genocide.

The ministry debate revolves around a detailed proposal submitted last spring by Dr. Yair Oron of Seminar Hakibbutzim State Teachers' College.

*The proposal calls for a special pro*gram for 11th and 12th grades, in which genocide would be studied in the context of modern history.

The program was originally intended to focus on the genocidal slaughter of the Armenian people during World War I by Ottoman Turkey, as a precursor to the Nazi extermination of European Jewry. It was later expanded to include the annihilation of the Gypsies by the Nazis, which proceeded simultaneously with the Holocaust.

The program originally received the enthusiastic support of the ministry's pedagogical secretariat – it was supposed to go into effect on an experimen*tal basis as an elective for upper-grade* students specializing in history, beginning with the second semester of the current school year.

A special reader was prepared, entitled "Sensitivity to the Suffering of the World: Genocide in the 20th Century," and scores of teachers were trained to teach the course.

However, objections by the ministry's inspector of history studies, Prof. Michel Aboutbul, seem to have scotched the entire program.

A ministry committee is considering *the issue this week and is to determine* whether the subject will be taught next year, if at all.

DESPITE vehement denials by Education and Culture Minister Amnon Rubinstein, there is more than a fleeting suspicion that the real objections stem from two highly charged motives: sensitivity to Israel's diplomatic relations with modern Turkey, heir of the Otto*man Empire which carried* out the genocide against the Armenians in 1915; and the interest, identified primarily with Yad Vashem, to play down any competing historical phenomena which could detract from the uniqueness of the Holocaust.

A TV documentary last year on the Armenian genocide was taken off the air at the last moment in response to pressure from the Turkish Embassy and our own Foreign Ministry. Academic and media freedom, and the public's right to know, were thus shamefully subjugated to crass political considerations.

The Turks are sensitive to any mention of the Armenian genocide.

Yet Israel maintains good relations with Germany without playing down its evil past; and it is similarly successful in juggling reasonable relations with Poland, Lithuania and Ukraine, all of *which are notorious for the* antisemitic bent of their populations.

Why shouldn't it be able to pursue such a double track with Turkey, a country which has always been philosemitic?

A school program to study genocide in the context of world history mustn't be quashed

The uniqueness of the Holocaust argument is much more problematic.

It takes the age-old Jewish tendency *to see the Holocaust as the consequence* of Jewish history, in which the world has always been and will always be against us, and opposes it with a more universalistic perception of the Holocaust as the most extreme expression of a tendency to genocide in our century.

The universalistic approach has, up till now, been almost entirely squelched.

No one is proposing that we turn Yad Vashem *into a memorial for the tragedies* of countless other victims of genocide.

But it would be nothing short of educational and moral bankruptcy if we failed to educate our teenagers – who are living at a time when, for example, there is a genocide going on in Rwanda – to understand the connections between our own monumental tragedy and the tragedies of other victim peoples.

The writer comments on public affairs.

The silliness of separation

ARIEL SHARON

THE house of cards has collapsed. Contrary to the government's promises, the political solution hasn't brought an end to terrorism.

The public no longer accepts that the more entrenched peace becomes, the more terrorism will intensify. Nor does it buy the story of Palestinians who are "enemies and murderers of peace." It sees only the graves of Israeli soldiers and civilians. Somehow, Palestinian supporters of the process stay unharmed by these "enemies of peace."

Which is why the government needs a new panacea: separation. "You are a different entity – religiously, nationally, politically; we want separation from you," said the prime minister to the Palestinians. And he added, "Separation, but not back at the Green Line; and our security border will be at the Jordan."

What does the premier mean when he talks of separation? A separation between the peoples? Territorial separation? Will fences separate Kfar Sava from Kalkilya? Tulkarm from Ne*tanya, Ramat Rahel from Bethle*hem? Will there be a fence between the city of David and Abu Dis? Does he intend to separate all Jews and Palestinians?

And what will be the future of the Palestinian population in Israel which today demands "cul*tural autonomy*" and recognition of the Palestinians as a national minority – a demand which skirts the realm of self-determination?

Palestinian Israelis are already participating in riots and attacking Israeli soldiers and policemen with the Arabs of Judea and Samaria. The ties of the Islamic movement in Israel with Hamas are getting stronger. Growing are the Arab population's demands that Israel cease being a Jewish state as defined in the Declaration of Independence and become "a state of all its citizens."

There are calls to change the flag and the anthem. The logic of separation dictates that we shall *have to build fences between Up*per Nazareth and Nazareth, Acre and Old Acre, Rosh Ha'ayin and Kafr Kassem, Ramat Hakovesh and Tirah, the Ajami Quarter and the rest of Jaffa.

And what will the premier do in Jerusalem – divide the city? Or "separate" it by closing off roads from Judea and Samaria? Perhaps he wants to gain a year's respite to finish building the fence.

The whole nation will wait. There will be hope. And it will be possible to tell the Jews why they are still being killed: "We haven't *finished* building the fence yet." And when it is finished and terrorism continues, another excuse will be found. There is no limit to the cynicism, no end to the deception.

It is taking a year to construct the external fence around the *Gaza Strip*, 54 kilometers long. The Palestinians have started sabotaging it even as it is being built. A traveler along the fence can see many kilometers in which the iron posts, thousands of them, have been stolen. The electronic systems are sabotaged at night. Even stolen vehicles from Israel are smuggled through.

The fence system in the north is 100 kilometers long. But without the IDF and the SLA in the security belt, the battles would have raged in the Galilee.

The length of the Green Line *before the Six Day War was* 309 kilometers. We were never able to seal it. The new separation line *will be much longer. Additional* fences will have to be built in the Jordan Valley and around the settlement blocks. The system's length will be 500 kilometers.

Won't these fences be sabotaged? Won't they be penetrated? Where will the forces to secure this system come from? From what budgets? It is difficult to fathom such silliness.

THIS IS what must be done:

● First, the process must be stopped. This experiment has failed. Another way to peace must be found.

● The right to execute preemptive strikes and hot pursuit must be regained. It is impossible to fight terror from behind fences.

● Owing to the severe deterioration, a comprehensive operation in Gaza and in Judea and Samaria must be launched now to detain wanted terrorists, Hamas and Islamic Jihad leaders, inciters and recruiters of suicide bombers. *The thousands of weapons and* explosives now in the field must be collected. If the Palestinian Police declines to participate, it should be confined to its bases until the operation ends.

● The families of the suicide bombers should be expelled from the country, and we should make it clear that this will continue in the future. It may be the most effective deterrent.

● We must stop weapons and explosives being smuggled to Gaza and the Sinai by widening the barrier in Rafiah and the sea.

● Vehicles must not enter Israel *from Gaza even if the closure is* lifted. The railway line from the Erez checkpoint to the center of the country must be reactivated to transport workers.

● The persecution of Palestinians who have helped us must be prevented by the imposition of severe penalties. Otherwise, our intelligence sources will dry up.

● The offensive against terrorism must be free of extraneous considerations.

The security apparatus has collapsed because it is serving misguided policies. Regardless of political differences, we must rehabilitate our security. A lengthy, strenuous effort can still stop the deterioration and return us to being what we were.

The writer, a Likud MK, is a former minister of defense.

The next war has begun

YIGAL CARMON

AFTER every attack which increases our frustration with the peace process, government spokesmen *tell us that we should distinguish* between the PLO and its terrorist rivals who oppose the process. Some even draw comparisons between "opponents of the peace process on both sides." Let's look at the facts.

Just three weeks ago, at the PLO's annual celebration of "Eruption Day" (anniversary of the start of its war with Israel 30 years ago), Yasser Arafat spoke at a public meeting in Gaza, inciting his followers to die for Allah.

"We are all projects for martyrdom (*shahada*)," he shouted to the huge crowd. "And I say to *the martyrs who died*, in the name of the martyrs who are still living: We stand by our oath and *hold to our commitment... to* continue... the revolution."

Arafat kept repeating that the 100-year battle which began with the first Zionist Congress in Basel in 1897 is still in force, and that the Palestinian people must make more sacrifices, like in the siege of Beirut, in which it lost 72,000 killed or wounded, the siege of Tripoli, where it lost 12,000, and the intifada, where he said 2,000 had been killed and 118,000 wounded.

"We hold to freedom of opinion," declared Arafat to those who were absent, Hamas and the *Islamic Jihad, telling them again* the story of the Prophet's temporary agreement with the tribe of Kureish. "But there are people who will not learn from history," *Arafat said. "As for us, our history* is our best teacher."

Again and again, under his direction, the crowd chanted the war cry now familiar to most Israelis: "We will give our soul and blood for thee, O Palestine." And Arafat addressed "our Sheikh Ahmed Yassin: 'Do not be discouraged. Be patient. Trust in Allah, and persevere.' "

Arafat conveyed these messages in several public gatherings on different occasions at the beginning of this month. Palestinian Television broadcast them to Palestinians in the Arab countries and the territories, and in Israel.

RABIN KNOWS all this and *more. He knows the PLO isn't* honoring the peace agreement because it sees Hamas and Islam*ic Jihad as a legitimate* opposition, as kinsmen with whom it is ready to conduct only dialogue, not war. So instead of extraditing murderers, it recruits them to its police and protects them. (Even the Palestinian organization Al-Haq has reported this.)

Nabil Sha'ath recently announced that the undertaking to amend the Palestinian Covenant will not be honored. Neither is Arafat honoring the undertaking to punish those of his followers who persist in violence.

When the Fatah Hawks carried on the armed struggle, the Israeli public was told that Arafat was no longer responsible for them because they had left the PLO. It now turns out that instead of being punished, they have been *honorably restored to the ranks.*

Since Arafat hasn't disarmed anyone, a huge arsenal of person*al weapons is accumulating in the* hands of his "opponents" in the territories. These opponents, Hamas and Islamic Jihad, are also making every effort to prevent internal strife, and are ready even to overlook the cases in which their people have been accidentally killed by Arafat's people. War must be waged only against Israel, only against the Jews.

The government is aware of all this. But whether or not it shelves the political process, we are heading back to 1947, to a fatal clash between two communities.

If we continue with the peace *process, the conflict will be long*er in coming, but our situation will worsen. If we stop the process now, the *situation may dete*riorate more quickly, but our position will be relatively better.

Ministers understand this as well as anyone, but lack the courage to face the confrontation that lies ahead. We most need political and social solidarity, but cannot achieve it while we persistently avoid reality.

"We cannot allow a lone terrorist to make decisions for us and determine our future," said Yossi Sarid this week. Can we *allow this government to do so?*

The writer is a former adviser to the prime minister on terrorism.

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The birdmen of Netanya

SEE IT HERE

HAIM SHAPIRO

LET me tell you about the birds and the bees.

The birds, at the parrot farm in Kfar Hess, and the bees, at the Day in the Country visitors' center in Moshav Mishmeret, are just some of the things to see in the Netanya area.

Brothers Uri and Haim Magen started their parrot farm in Moshav Kfar Hess, southeast of Netanya, about five years ago as a hobby. They had always loved birds and as their collection grew they found that they had more and more visitors. Today the birds are housed in a large building around the back of their house at the edge of the village.

There are hundreds of parrots, parakeets, and other tropical birds at the farm. Visitors can touch and pet the birds and let the parrots perch on their hands.

The brothers buy only locally hatched birds, which tend to be healthier than those brought in from the wild.

The farm has developed programs for every age group, with a slide show, an animal petting and feeding area, and a coffee shop where parents and teachers can relax while the children enjoy themselves.

Incidentally, Magen says that the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel (SPNI) organizes visits to the farm.

The parrot farm is open from 10 to 4 and the admission fee is NIS 10. Tel. 09-961957.

DOWN THE road in Kfar Hess, in the middle of the citrus orchards, is Kad Cafe, a cafe and ceramics shop that has won a wide clientele for its nightly jazz concerts.

Just a few minutes from Kfar Hess, among the rural communities southeast of Netanya, is Moshav Mishmeret, where Gidi Magen (no relation to Uri and Haim) offers A Day in the Country.

Gidi Magen says the idea to open the farm to visitors came during one of the periodic crises in Israeli agriculture.

"We used to assume that children in Israel knew about plants and animals, but that isn't true anymore," he says.

Visitors can collect eggs from the chicken coops, view the sheep and goat herd, and pick oranges.

But the pride of the farm is its beehive. There is a full range of displays on the life of the bee and organization of the beehive.

Although A Day in the Country started with children's groups, the proprietors soon found that adults enjoy a day on the farm just as much. The farm has a wide selection of programs at varying prices, with admission fees of about NIS 13 for most children's activities and about NIS 7 for adults. Groups are welcome. Visits should be coordinated in advance. Tel. 09-967146.

India: Reflections in fragmented mirrors

Meeting the people completes your passage to the subcontinent, Thomas O'Dwyer writes

AMBASSADOR Ephraim Dubek says moving from Cairo to New Delhi "was like moving from a cold shower to a hot shower," as regards public attitudes to Israel.

He was at a classy reception in honor of El Al's inaugural flight to New Delhi just over two weeks ago. The guests in the luxury Taj Palace Hotel were indeed enthusiastic about India's new friend, Israel, and already booming two-way trade and tourism.

A couple of kilometers away, Sarabjit Gupta would be glad of any shower. He had never heard of Israel.

Four of us found Gupta after we broke free of the guided tour for Israeli journalists and plunged into a real south Delhi slum, where we suspected modern India lurked far from the diplomats, travel agents and moghuls' hotels.

The vast slum was a city of doll's houses cast in brown and black mud, crisscrossed by open drains.

Doors on each street faced doors a meter away. The narrow open drains ran in front of each terrace of homes. Each rooftop was shoulder high.

The hovels averaged slightly larger than my apartment bathroom. They were packed with young and old. Their few possessions filled each centimeter of remaining empty space. Everyone seemed to be washing something in buckets – themselves, clothes, children, pots.

Gupta was washing at a standpipe in a Lilliputian square and grinned helpfully for the cameras. "Our homes are not very nice," he said though an interpreter, waving a hand to the slum-caked horizon. "But the people are very clean and very happy. God is good, things always get better."

In another tiny, blue-painted square, 20 small children sat on a green rug spread over the flagstones, fiercely belting out the Hindi alphabet.

"I try to get them to attend for at least an hour a day," said a Delhi social worker in a yellow-and-gold sari. "Parents think the kids should be in town begging from tourists."

But it was the only place we visited in India where no one begged or hassled.

As we left, the delightful children crowded around, shouting, showing off, posing. Little hands stretched out. More baksheesh! I ignored the pleading paws and grinning faces.

"Sir," chided our guide, "they only want to shake your hand." He was right; I shook a score of eager hands, got pulled, danced with and jumped on.

It was the most humiliating moment of the tour, my Western cynicism and preconceptions brutally exposed. "Poor" is not "mean."

IF YOU go to India, do not under any circumstances miss the people. India has a way of humbling us; its daily life is more enlightening than any pilgrimage to a Buddhist temple or guru's ashram.

Of course you will go for the tourists' India too. But if you do not mix with people who are not involved in ripping off tourists, you will come away with a skewed impression, reinforced prejudice.

The other India is indeed infuriating – all you ever suspected about bureaucacy, noise, filth, minute-by-minute demands to hand over 20 rupees (NIS 2) for this, for that and for nothing.

From the air, the city itself is the patchwork that is India. The outer fringes of the slums first catch the eye. Delhi stretches outward from a green wooded core at the center, through built-up radii to the fuzzy circumference of squalid huts and shanties, before petering out into brown plains.

Thus sprawls the city, from rich to poor to nameless streets for nameless masses.

Delhi means "threshold" – it was never meant to be the capital of India. Early conquerers who swept down from the north changed their minds as often as their thrones and concubines. They moved the capital here, there, over there, and back again. The British finally fixed it with their drains and railways and bureaucrats when they spent 20 years building New Delhi from 1911 to 1930.

They made not a bad job of it, especially the *de rigueur* imperial grandeur.

The Imperial Gate flanking the rotund parliament is quintessential Raj in its spacious magnificence – a vast road and square for viceregal processions dominated by twin red towers and Romano-Hindu-Islamic-Victorian temples to power.

It is truly Indian, Red Fort Mark 2, yet open where the Moghuls were closed in, defiant in the self-confidence of open space where the ancient kings were walled in by fears of assassination and assault.

TO PASS from the Raj to the Red Fort's real Moghul gates is to understand how England's sense of history and destiny clicked into place in India, just as its class system meshed perfectly with India's convoluted caste hierarchy.

We were fortunate to visit the fort on a rare foggy morning. The great red mass loomed from the folds of a gray sari. The mist off the Yamuna River hung low as the sprawling buildings unveiled one by one and the caws of jackdaws echoed through shrouded gardens from the banyan trees.

On such a chilly 16th-century morning, the throng would have entered the Hall of Public Audience in this seventh city of Delhi to petition its founder, Shajahan. This was the master-architect of Agra's Taj Mahal, the eternal memorial to his wife Mumtaz.

All eyes would be lowered before the vast jewel-encrusted marble box that towered above them bearing the solid gold Peacock Throne. That eventually ended up in the hands of Persian dynasts.

Behind is the marble palace where the beloved Mumtaz kept court. A channel, once filled with ever-flowing perfumed water, flows though the palace rooms.

An old woman flared a match to reveal thousands of tiny mirrors set in the roof – candle flames would create a cascade of stars in the indoor sky.

Above an arch is a Persian inscription. It reads: "If there be paradise on earth, this is it, this is it." But the Taj was still to come.

The history of Delhi properly began four centuries earlier south of the Red Fort at Qutab Minar. It is stunningly marked by a 73-meter carved victory tower built by Quatabudin Aibak in 1192 and perfectly preserved – still the tallest stone tower in all India.

At its foot is India's oldest mosque, the Quwat-ul-Islam Masjid, also built to boast Islam's victory over India's Hindu dynasties. Ironically, the beautifully carved mosque was constructed by Hindu craftsmen from the remnants of even more beautifully carved Hindu temples. The Moslems were forced to build a carved screen to hide the ebullient but banned human forms from worshipers.

FROM NEW Delhi, Israel's first tourists-without-backpacks are mainly exploring the "golden triangle" – southeast to Agra and the Taj Mahal, then west to Jaipur and Rajastan and back north to Delhi. Each leg is six to eight hours on one narrow road packed with camel- and cow-drawn carts, streams of brightly painted lorries, and the endless varieties of rural traffic.

It is a shame to doze away this "real India" in air-conditioned isolation, for real India is the villages. We took every opportunity to stop, throw fruit at the ubiquitous macaque monkeys, drink tea at village kiosks, barter for junk.

Mountainous and beautiful Rajastan and its wealthy capital Jaipur are another India needing another story of steep elephant climbs to the Amer Fort, of bazaars like none on earth, of maharajahs living and dead.

And the Taj Mahal?

Even if you're prepared by a lifetime of postcard images, the first glimpse of the white Taj in three dimensions through the giant archway of the red palace gate confounds any preconceived ideas.

It is translucent and transcendent. It is worth making one trip to India in a lifetime just to see.

Against a clear blue sky it is still a vision of ultimate human perfection inspired by divinity.

It is made of milk, fluid and light – or it is unreal and doesn't exist.

The statistics rattled off by guides add nothing to the melting, dissolving vision seen from afar. Not the 20,000 artisans from across the globe employed for 20 years, the solid pure marble encrusted with delicate designs in green malachite, red cornelian, blue lapis lazuli, ruby, black onyx, meteoric streaks of pearl, the dark circle on Mumtaz's tomb from which the Kohinoor diamond was ripped off to grace the British crown jewels.

The site on the banks of the Yamuna is idyllic. The broad river, rolling green fields and cawing birds are eternal serenity.

Shajahan believed Mumtaz so perfect that she must have gone straight to heaven after giving birth to their 14th child. Consumed with grief, he decided to bring paradise down to earth for all to contemplate her perfection, for eternity. He succeeded as no other man has done. No other woman has been so loved.

"If there be paradise on earth, *this* is it. This is it."

If God is love, this is love's dwelling place.

Pilgrimages departing from the Holy Land

TRAVEL TIPS

HAIM SHAPIRO

RELIGIOUS pilgrimages have always been an important motivation for travel. Pious Jews wishing to visit the resting places of Jewish sages in Eastern Europe can turn to Akiva Tours in Bnei Brak, which specializes in such tours and promises its groups will have food with the kashrut certification of Rabbi Landa of Bnei Brak. The company is organizing two week-long charter flights to visit to the tomb of the 18th-century hassidic leader Elimelech of Lyzhansk on the anniversary of his death in late February.

CHINA may officially espouse Communism, but it too has a company which specializes in religious tours, according to *Travel China*, a fortnightly publication of the China National Tourism Administration. The Beijing You Peng International Travel Service offers tours for religious Moslem, Buddhist, or Christian tourists.

For Moslems, arrangements include special food, an indication in hotel rooms of the direction of Mecca, and a time schedule for the five daily prayers. The report does not mention any tours for observant Jews, but Tiyulei Gesher in Tel Aviv specializes in tours anywhere in the world in a religious Jewish framework.

For those with less time or money, the Museum of Italian Jewish Art is organizing a "tour" in Jerusalem in English of Italian Judaica on February 8. The price of NIS 85 includes a lecture the evening before the tour by architect David Cassuto, transportation and entrance fees, as well as morning coffee and an Italian lunch at a local kosher Italian restaurant. For information tel. 02-241610 or 253480.

OMNIWORLD has February packages to Paris including round-trip fare, four nights, and a buffet breakfast from $423. For all visitors to France, the company is offering a package which includes a visit to Futuroscope, the French movie theme park at Poitiers, about 300 kilometers from Paris. The package, which sells for 899 francs (about $170), includes a rental car for three days, entry to the park and one night at a nearby chateau hotel.

CHEAP flights to Germany and Zurich are available from Yossi Tours, which is offering a discount of $50 to those registering for its flights by January 31. After the discount, the round-trip fare to Munich and Zurich is $279, to Stuttgart and Frankfurt it is $289, to Cologne and Hannover it is $329, and to Hamburg, $349.

USAir has announced that it intends to freeze the price of its VUSA tickets through the end of 1995. The price for two destinations is $289, while that for three destinations is $319. The company, which previously had included Canada in these prices, has now added the Bahamas, the Caribbean and Mexico as well.

FOR A DAY of skiing, Arkia has a package which includes a morning flight from Tel Aviv to Kiryat Shmona, a rental car (customer pays mileage and insurance), entry to the Hermon ski site and a ski pass for unlimited use of the ski lifts. The price is NIS 249. For NIS 299, the price covers rental of ski equipment and shoes. For a similar two-day package, plus a room and breakfast at a hotel in the area, prices start at NIS 489.

The company is also lowering the price of its three-night weekend package to Jordan from $399 to $369. The price includes four- or five-star accommodation in Amman and a superior three-star hotel at Petra, half-board, and pick-up and delivery in Tel Aviv, Netanya and Haifa.

TRANSWEDE, the Swedish domestic airline, which is represented in Israel by Laufer, has three daily flights between Stockholm and London.

EL AL HAS been named the best airline to the Middle East by the American monthly *Business Traveler International*. The honor is based on a survey of the magazine's readers by an independent company.

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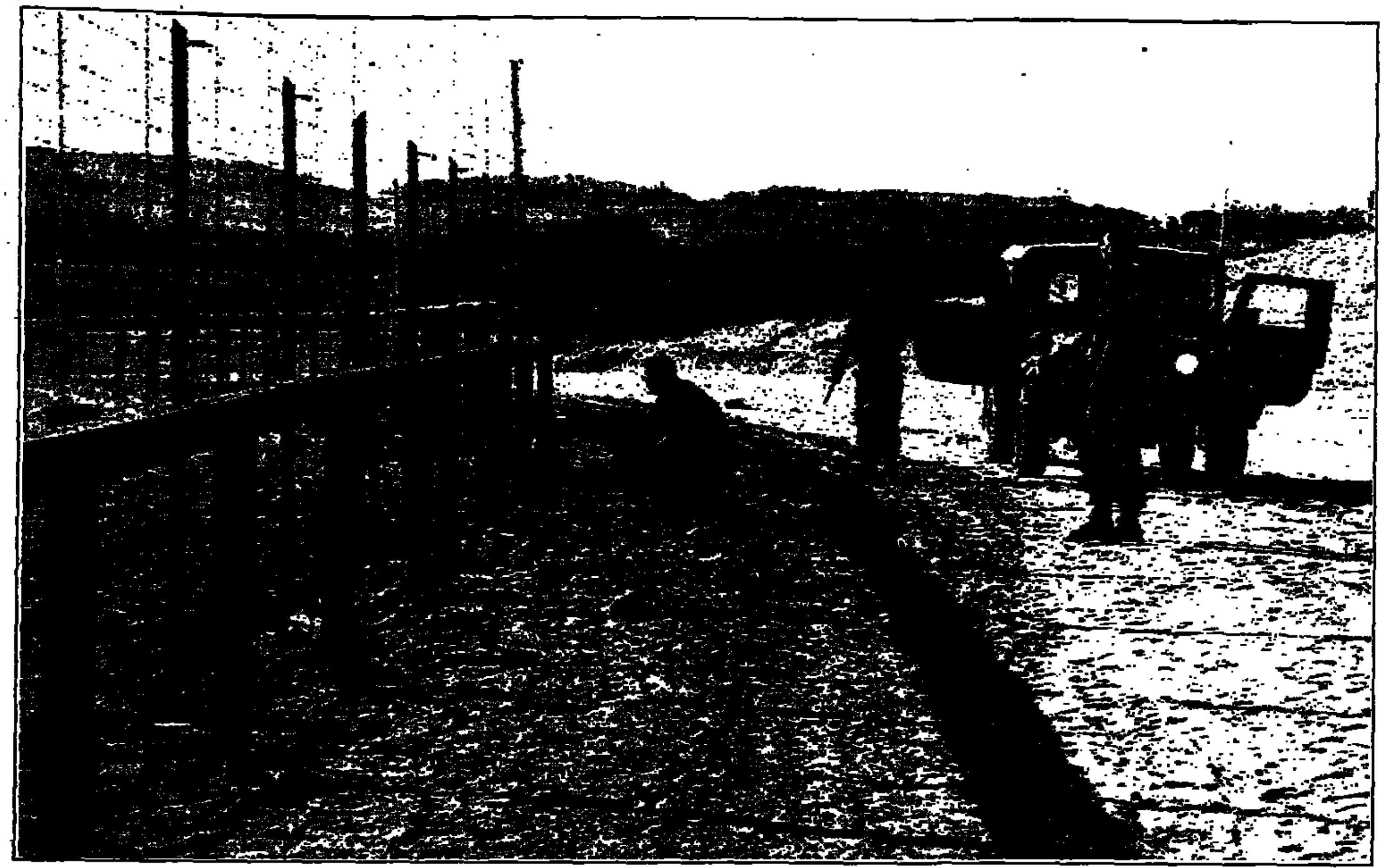
هكذا من الاصل

NEWS IN FOCUS

Good fences don't always make good neighbors

Although the construction of a Green Line fence seems feasible, it's unclear whether it would work, Alon Pinkas reports



A security fence along the Green Line, based on the Gaza Strip peripheral fence now under construction (above), is feasible, according to a recent study by former director of the Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies, Joseph Alpher. (David Rubinger)

THE PHYSICAL separation of Jews and Arabs, an idea as old as the Yishuv, was brought up again by Prime Minister Rabin after Sunday's attack at Beit Lid.

Rabin said he would set up a ministerial committee to examine the feasibility of separating Israel and the Palestinians by means of a security fence with a series of Erez-like checkpoints. The committee is to examine the economic, security and political ramifications of the fence.

In an attempt to ward off fears that the fence will set Israel's final borders, Rabin declared that "separation will not be along the 1967 lines."

According to a senior army source, the construction of a fence along the Green Line, mostly on the so-called "seamline" separating Israeli and Palestinian population centers, is technically feasible. But its potential effectiveness is questionable, the source said.

The source confirmed that neither the Planning Branch nor the Logistics Branch of the IDF has blueprints for an electronically controlled fence, and no orders were given to devise such a plan. But he noted that a 300-km. fence could be constructed within a year at the cost of $200 million.

"Rabin has made it clear that separation means establishing a temporary security line, rather than delineating a political border," the source said.

Thus far, the possible construction of the security fence has not been linked with the IDF's withdrawal from Palestinian cities and towns, as stipulated in the Cairo agreement.

Separation by a fence, however, is a politically charged issue, the source said. This is because some will say that Rabin is predetermining the final status lines by demarcating Israel's borders.

But he added that there are other ways of achieving a physical separation of Israelis and Palestinians, such as sealing off the territories. Separation can also be achieved through an augmented military presence, he noted.

Maintaining a fence would not be easy, he continued. "It would have to be manned by hundreds of soldiers; its ultra-sensitive sensors could be activated by a child throwing a stone; and checkpoints would have to be built to monitor and control the entry and exit of Palestinian laborers," the officer said.

Police Minister Moshe Shahal has come out against the construction of a fence, and thinks the Border Police can enforce separation between Israelis and Palestinians. Shahal said a force of 2,000 policemen, aided by trained dogs, could effectively enforce separation without the technical and political problems a fence would most likely create.

Absorption Minister Yair Tzaban also expressed opposition to the idea of a fence, citing economic and political reasons.

"A physical separation is impossible without a political and economic one," Tzaban said, implying that as long as the Palestinians are economically dependent on Israel, separation may have adverse effects.

However, Joseph Alpher, former director of the Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies, described separation as part of a continuous process since Israel left Gaza last May. Alpher recently wrote a study entitled "Settlements and Borders," the second in a series on final-status issues between Israel and the Palestinians.

"After the Oslo accords in September 1993 and the Cairo agreement in May 1994, we thought that an Israeli-Palestinian peace would be based on integration. But since then reality has dictated the inevitable conclusion that a successful peace means separation," Alpher said. "A fence symbolizes this."

"Rabin has the right idea, especially after Beit Lid and similar attacks in the past year, that the only way to lead the skeptical public forward on the road to peace is to convince it that peace and security are inseparably bound together," he said.

Alpher said a security fence is feasible, based on the model of the Gaza Strip peripheral fence, which is partially operational and expected to be completed in February.

In his study, Alpher proposes "moderate territorial compromise" and provides a map for the final-status borders. Rabin's proposed fence will likely follow those lines.

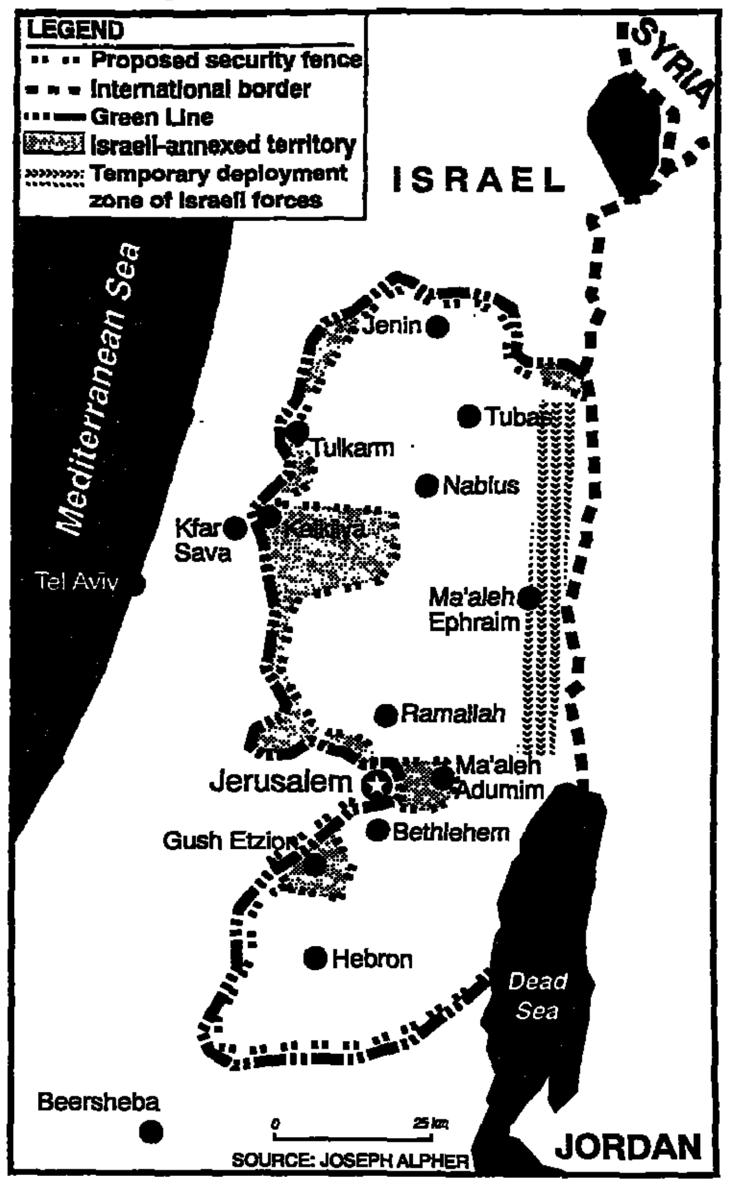
He suggests that Israel annex 11 percent of the West Bank, an area in which 70% of the 140,000 settlers live. The annexed areas include Greater Jerusalem, Gush Etzion to the south, and the group of settlements around Ariel and Emanuel. Alpher proposes that an Israeli military force be stationed in the Jordan Valley for 15 years until peace has withstood the test of time.

"By demarcating a line you are creating a border marked more or less according to large settlement concentrations adjacent to the Green Line. This could very well be perceived by the public as the final line," Alpher says.

On Wednesday, the senior army officer said Alpher's map is probably the best approximation available of what Rabin may have in mind.

"I am sure the IDF will come up with its own maps, but I will not be surprised if they resemble Alpher's map," he said.

Proposed Separation Map



SOURCE: JOSEPH ALPHER

GSS feels less secure about its power to stop terror

The PA is failing to cooperate fully on security, Arafat hasn't crushed terror cells, and Israeli officials are worried. Steve Rodan reports

THE head of the General Security Service faced the plenum of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, radiating confidence as he reviewed Israel's war against Palestinian terrorism.

Most of the committee members on Tuesday were impressed by the GSS chief, who steps down on March 1 after nearly seven years on the job. But a parliamentarian close to the GSS chief warned against being fooled: "These are tough times for all the security services and everybody is worried."

Security officials these days are watching the decimation of their network of Palestinian informers. Their men's freedom of movement in Gaza and Jericho is hampered by the Israel-PLO accord. Their hopes of security cooperation with the PA have been dashed.

Moreover, the security services are bracing for a government decision on army withdrawal from Arab towns and villages in Judea and Samaria, a move they are convinced will make their fight against terror far more difficult.

"The security establishment can deal with zigzags in government policy," said Brig.-Gen. (res.) David Agmon, until recently the chief of staff's intifada adviser. "What does interfere is the lack of decisions. The army establishment doesn't know what to prepare for because there is no agreement."

THE GOVERNMENT has granted the security services more leeway in interrogating suspected terrorists and pledged to allocate more manpower and money to the police and GSS. Security officials acknowledge that these have helped foil as many as five terrorist attacks over the last three months.

But they say Hamas and Islamic Jihad still hold the initiative in this war.

"There are some things that money can't buy so easily," a senior security source said. "Our main need is not for more agents. We need a new network of informers. We need reorganization. In many ways, we're back to [the situation in] 1967 when we first entered the territories."

Some security sources maintain that they continue to receive hard and updated intelligence on terrorist activities in Gaza despite Yasser Arafat's rule and his constant search for collaborators. "We get a lot of information from Gaza," a senior source said, "but we can't get there because of political restraints."

The question being repeatedly asked is whether the army can fight terrorism while being compelled to rely on the PLO. Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Shahak, while in Jerusalem to visit soldiers hospitalized with injuries suffered in Sunday's Beit Lid bombing, appeared to avoid the question, saying, "I think the Palestinian Authority has to do everything it can and knows to fight terror in Gaza."

Q: "So are we in effect helpless without the PLO?"

Shahak: "No. We will strike at terror wherever it is hiding."

STILL, SECURITY sources say that despite numerous PLO pledges, Israel remains alone in fighting Hamas terrorism. The PA has refused to share with Israel intelligence on Islamic terrorists operating in Gaza. A report prepared by the IDF Judge Advocate-General's Office says the PA has failed to give Israel information it obtained by interrogating Hamas terrorists suspected of attacking Israelis.

Security sources report slight cooperation from Arafat's intelligence chief in Jericho, Jibril Rajoub, who in exchange is allowed to operate in Jerusalem. At the same time, Rajoub is said to be destroying the Israeli network of informers. Dozens of suspected collaborators have been killed in the Tulkarm area in the last three months, many of the slayings attributed by security forces to Rajoub's agents.

The PA has also ignored Israel's requests to extradite or

(Continued on Page 10)

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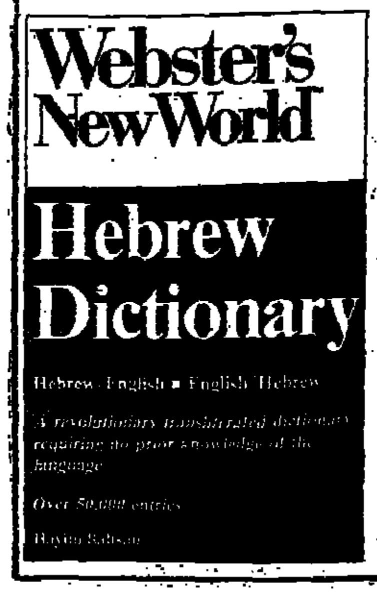
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Good face, bad face of the Palestinians

Palestinian Planning Minister Nabil Shaath and Islamic Jihad leader Abdullah Shami offer two very different responses to the terror attack at Beit Lid this week, **Jon Immanuel** reports

IN the corridor of the Palestinian Planning Ministry in Gaza visitors are served coffee by a waiter in a burgundy jacket with brass buttons. Officials wear suits and ties. Times have changed since Israeli soldiers patrolled the building, and hostilities seem far away.

The war and the explosions are elsewhere – in Afula, Hadera, Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and Beit Lid.

Minister Dr. Nabil Shaath, in effect the prime minister and the good face of the Palestinian revolution, uses words like "grisly" and "gruesome" to describe the latest bombing. The words suggest esthetic more than moral outrage, not the kind of words that victimized Israelis would use.

His call for Israel to exercise patience and restraint seems to put internal politics above Israel's pain. "The target is not Israel," he says. The Islamic extremists "set themselves up to destroy the Palestinian National Authority and they are doing it by killing Israelis.... They think their best chance to win power, and to impose their terms, is by killing Israelis and mobilizing public opinion behind them."

If the PA is the main target, does this mean the PLO will treat Hamas and Islamic Jihad as the common enemy of both the PLO and Israel, to be crushed? He hesitates. "We made peace with our enemy of 47 years, not to make enemies with our own brothers.... Once we really resist them [the extremists] on the street, they're willing to kill us too.... If we arrest them, we look like human-rights violators, Uncle Toms and lackeys for the Israelis."

He makes it appear that at every turn the Palestinian Authority is caught in a web of civil rights dilemmas, democratic scruples and public opinion which prevent it from taking decisive action even to save itself. And when Israel steps in, it makes things even worse, Shaath says.

Shaath blames Israel for helping to create a climate of support for terrorism through its own policies of "retaliation and overreaction," especially the imposition of closures which hurt everyone, those who worked in Israel and those who earned a living from those workers when they spent their wages.

"But I am not saying there must not be retaliation, only that there can be two mistakes, massive retaliation and hitting the wrong party," Shaath says.

Was the pinpoint car-bombing of Hani Abed, an Islamic Jihad activist suspected of ordering a deadly attack on soldiers in May, the right kind of retaliation? He hesitates for a moment and then says it was not, because Abed did not have the chance to defend himself. It offended a sense of legality, and the PA "again looked impotent."

The way out of the dilemma, he says, is quiet cooperation with Israel, quiet action which roots out the perpetrators without creating the kind of fury that provokes more attacks.

He points out that Palestinian police have foiled many attacks in the planning stages, one against the settlement of Dugit. This was confirmed by Israeli intelligence, but no one was arrested, so there was little intelligence followup.

THE ROOT problem, according to Shaath, is Israeli arrogance and the failure to treat Palestinians as equals. Israeli intelligence officers, in particular, assume a "superior" attitude to their Palestinian counterparts.

Shami (above): First we had only knives, now we have car bombs; Shaath: We made peace with our enemy of 47 years, not to make enemies with our own brothers. (Jon Immanuel; Reuter)

Though Shaath does not say so explicitly, terrorism is popular because it is the great leveler of Israeli superiority. "We want them to share our pain," is how Fathi Shikaki, the exiled leader of Islamic Jihad, put it in Damascus.

Until recently, a statement like that would have distinguished Islamic Jihad from Hamas. In its pre-suicide-bomb days, Hamas justified its steadfast opposition to peace talks with phrases like: "For the sake of Allah, we are ready for the sacrifice of suffering." Those were the words of Dr. Abdel-Aziz Rantisi, the No. 2 man in Hamas and now in an Israeli jail.

From that austere message to Jihad's terrorist message is a short step, which was taken long ago. It may well be that Hamas cooperated with Jihad in this bomb attack.

Shaath, the corporate management professor who would much prefer to talk about economic development, says that people welcome their own suffering and that of Israelis only when they consider their misery to be irremediable. Once they see a material improvement, jobs, a prisoner release, they quickly shed any joy at seeing Israelis killed.

Shaath said that he perceived less rejoicing over the Beit Lid bombing than previous attacks, despite the fact that all but one of the 19 victims were soldiers, for many Palestinians a legitimate military target. This was because Palestinians had begun to feel things were moving ahead during the week before the bombing.

Timetables for talks had been established and Israel had promised to negotiate this week the release of prisoners, he noted. Just this point was emphasized by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat. In his first public speech after the Beit Lid massacre, at Gaza's Al-Azhar University on Tuesday, Arafat accused Islamic Jihad not of killing Israelis, but of stopping the imminent release of 1,700 prisoners.

As always after these bombings there were scattered celebrations after Islamic Jihad on Sunday evening announced its "coup" over the far larger Hamas organization (Hamas originally took responsibility in an announcement from Amman). But at the mourning house of terrorist Anwar Sukar in the Gaza neighborhood of Shajaiyah, there was noticeable somberness on Monday evening.

Sukar's uncle told young people to "stop this noise" when youths enthusiastically chanted his nephew's praises. The coffee served was bitter, although at the home of a "martyr" it is usually sweet. And on the previous evening Sukar's mother scolded next-door neighbor Abdullah Shami, an outspoken Islamic Jihad leader, whom she accused of leading her son towards "holy martyrdom." Several reports said rubbish was thrown at him.

When Shami visited the home on Monday evening, he kept away from the family. Palestinian policemen visited the home, not to arrest Shami, but to offer condolences to Sukar's father Mohammed, who is a policeman. "Anwar had his opinions, I tried to change them but he stuck to them. He is my son and I am proud of him," Mohammed Sukar said.

On Tuesday the police questioned Shami, released him then arrested him again at night. Though arrested and released several times before, Shami appears to have one more count against him this time, his undeniably close link with the suicide bomber going back several years.

In an interview with this reporter in Shami's windowless home the night before his arrest, Shami declared that the Israelis had caused immeasurable suffering to the Palestinians and deserved to be attacked until "all six million refugees returned to their homes in Palestine."

But if suffering was the issue, why did Islamic Jihad engage in much more violent attacks against Israelis now than they did during the intifada, when their suffering was surely greater?

He thought a moment and replied: "There is no connection. First we had only knives, then we got guns, then bombs, now car bombs." And in the future? "I don't know. Only the military wing knows."

A colleague of Shami, sitting next to him, clarified in English, "It is a matter of accumulated experience. Our released prisoners have that experience."

Shami looked at him and said: "This is not accurate, be quiet, do you want them to put us back in jail?"

For Shami, jail came the next day. One test of the Palestinian Authority's newly proclaimed resolve to end terrorism will be how long they keep him there after the Islamic Jihad demonstrations for his release begin.

GSS less secure

Youths watch as a masked member of Islamic Jihad sprays grafitti on a wall in Rafah, the Gaza Strip, this week. (AP)

(Continued from Page 9)

prosecute suspected terrorists. Moreover, the authority, the IDF report says, has refused to honor its commitment to stop the smuggling of weapons and explosives from Egypt to Gaza.

Security sources dispute Prime Minister Rabin's insistence that the bombing of Dan bus No. 5 in Tel Aviv, committed by a suicide bomber from Samaria in October, had nothing to do with the PA's failure to fight terrorism.

The sources say the explosives for that bombing and this week's massacre at the Beit Lid junction were smuggled from Egypt into Gaza. The explosives were then sent to Samaria, where they were packed into sophisticated bombs.

"The orders come from Gaza," a senior security source said. "In the Beit Lid incident, even the attackers came directly from Gaza."

Palestinian police, according to the IDF report, have entered areas of Jewish settlement without permission and acted alone along roads that are to be jointly patrolled by Israeli forces.

The result, security sources say, is a drop in morale among IDF commanders in Gaza. Many commanders quietly ask not to be assigned to serve with Palestinian police. They say the patrols are useless. Often, the Palestinian police ignore their Israeli counterparts and play backgammon and drink coffee when they are supposed to be on patrol.

SOME SECURITY sources acknowledge that the government as well as the IDF command made several mistakes in assessing Arafat. The biggest one was that he would fight Hamas terrorism to hasten Israeli withdrawal from the territories.

Instead, the sources say, Arafat has refused to crack down on Islamic terrorists and has quietly encouraged them. The PA head has adopted the rhetoric of the Islamic opposition, repeatedly terming the Israel-PLO accord as the two-year truce between Mohammed and the tribe of Kuraish nearly 1,300 years ago which led to the annihilation of that non-Moslem community.

Senior GSS officials, including its head, have concluded that Arafat regards Hamas and Islamic Jihad as essential for the Palestinians to achieve Israeli concessions that the PLO could not get solely through negotiations.

The sources say they are convinced that Islamic terrorists ensure their attacks are launched from Judea and Samaria rather than directly from Gaza, to prevent having Arafat being directly blamed. Indeed, GSS officials say, Arafat's agents have several times blocked Islamic squads from staging attacks from Gaza, although he has not prosecuted any of the suspected terrorists.

"Our biggest mistake was thinking Arafat had the power and will to control his people," Agmon, the former IDF adviser on the intifada, said.

Security officials say their biggest concern is the projected IDF withdrawal from Arab towns and villages. Senior security sources warn that the army redeployment will lead to an immediate and dramatic increase in terrorism. Hamas and Islamic Jihad will have dozens of towns and villages they can use as havens after they strike at Israeli targets.

Israeli retaliation could be negotiated under an agreement with the PLO, the sources say. But it would lead to an erosion of cooperation with PA authorities. It might serve as a further impetus for Palestinian terrorism.

MOST IMPORTANT, an IDF redeployment is expected to result in heightened cooperation between Fatah and Hamas. That cooperation began immediately after the Israel-PLO agreement was signed in 1993. An indictment presented last week in the military court in Nablus against Muasem Sabri Mukadi, accused of assisting the suicide bomber in the explosion of bus No. 5, which killed 22 people, said Fatah activists in Nablus sold Kalashnikov rifles to Hamas militants for 4,000 dinars, about $5,300.

One security source says IDF redeployment will lead to increased tension with the Palestinian Police. Arafat is asking for thousands more officers, and many of those are expected to be formally recruited among Fatah and Hamas militants.

Unlike the Palestine Liberation Army soldiers who now comprise the bulk of the police force, the Fatah and Hamas people expected to be recruited are popular among Palestinians, are familiar with the territories, and have a score to settle with Israel.

"Every change will be more difficult both for intelligence-gathering as well as operation," Agmon said. "We are fighting a movement that is deeply embedded in the population."

Security sources say they want approval of a comprehensive package of measures to fight terror. These include:

- the right of Israeli forces to enter any areas of Judea and Samaria taken over by the PA;
- rejecting the idea of joint patrols in Judea and Samaria as a means of protecting Israelis;
- control of the territories' electricity grid and water system, as well as all major roads;
- basing any redeployment on a line the IDF and GSS assess can be secured;
- a merciless campaign to eliminate terrorist leaders;
- reestablishing a network of informers;
- reorganization of the security services to allow for more security agents to be responsible for intelligence-gathering in the territories. This might include coordination between the GSS, the Mossad and IDF intelligence. Currently, the GSS, with fewer than 100 agents, is responsible for the territories.

Reuven Hazak, a former GSS senior official, acknowledges that this is a formidable task. Recruiting agents among the poorly paid Palestinian policemen might be easy. The challenge, however, is infiltrating Islamic terrorist cells after IDF redeployment when today, under Israeli rule of the territories, they appear beyond the grasp of the security services.

The fight against terrorism, Hazak noted, has been aided by the total dependence of Palestinians on Israeli jobs, licenses and visas, something that will largely disappear once Arafat extends his rule over Judea and Samaria.

"If I were the GSS head, I wouldn't be able to sleep at night," Hazak said.

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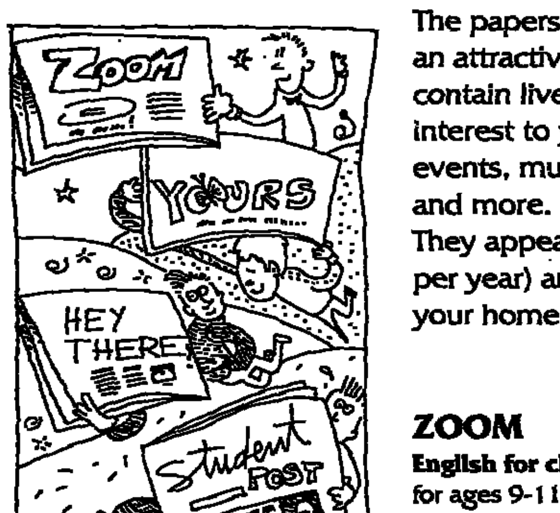

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Unsolved mysteries: Bethlehem mission changes hands

A Christian institute known for its work with crippled children has been seized by the Palestinian Authority. **Haim Shapiro** investigates

Orphans (above) continue to live and be educated at the Holy Land Christian Mission; delegates of the Palestinian Authority who claim to be 'in charge' of the institution. (Ariel Jerozolimski)

MANY readers of this newspaper may have been mystified this week to see a notice from the Holy Land Christian Mission (HLCM) of Kansas City, Missouri, reporting that the Palestinian Authority had seized its hospital for crippled children in Bethlehem, as well as the mission's other assets.

The hospital is part of a complex which is a prominent feature of the Bethlehem landscape. The building, with a large black-and-yellow sign identifying it as the Mount of David Hospital, is clearly visible above the road to Manger Square.

According to the 1990 *Encyclopedia of Associations*, HLCM, also known as Children International, had a budget of $17 million. Founded in 19.5, it is dedicated to ministering to the needs of widows, orphans, refugees and crippled children. Despite its name, it operates in 1[illegible] countries, offering the public the opportunity to sponsor a child for $14 a month.

David Johnson, director of the Lutheran World Federation's Augusta Victoria Hospital in Jerusalem, said the hospital has been unequaled in the Palestinian sector for its orthopedic children's care. There was an orthopedic rehabilitation center in Beit Jala, he said, but it did not have the same emphasis.

"Its focus in orthopedic care was unique. There was none of the same caliber," he said.

According to Elise Shazar, the spokeswoman for the civil administration in Judea and Samaria, it had been known for some months that the hospital was in financial difficulties, even before the administration transferred responsibility for health, education, welfare and tourism to the Palestinian Authority last month.

More recently, HLCM announced that it would have to close the hospital because of dwindling donor support for its Bethlehem activities. However, an orphans' home and school, also operated by HLCM, were not affected by the move and continued to function.

In response to the HLCM decision to close the hospital, the Palestinian Authority seized the organization's assets in Bethlehem. Intissar Wazir, better known as Um Jihad, the PA welfare minister, sent a letter to Joseph Gripkey, president of HLCM, informing him of the takeover and telling him that HLCM could not sell any of its assets.

According to Dr. Thiab Ayyoush, who heads the committee appointed by Um Jihad to run the hospital, the PA took this action because the HLCM had begun to sell its assets, in contravention of Jordanian law.

Apparently notified of the takeover in advance, the local director, Dr. Bassem Zuaiter, stood at the hospital gates and told patients that the hospital was closed and they would have to go elsewhere for treatment. In its notice this week, HLCM said that it would make arrangements to pay the parents for essential follow-up medical treatment required to finish any procedures currently under way.

Zuaiter himself is apparently treating many of the patients in his own private clinic. He would not agree to answer any questions about the hospital, why it had closed or what was happening to the children. He did say that the decision to close the hospital was based on economic considerations and had no political implications. He also said that the PA had taken over the institution by force and that he was denied access to it.

A secretary at the institution, who would not give her name, said that for the moment the facility had no administration; the PA had not yet appointed replacements. From time to time, she said, PA officials visited the facility.

"It is obviously a very serious matter that the Palestinian National Authority can seize the properties of an American charitable society, merely by signing an administrative order. There has been no due process of law, and no legal process has been followed. There is no basis in law for this kind of action," the statement said.

In another notice in the *Post*, HLCM disclaimed all responsibility for the children, patients, employees, payroll and bills connected with the hospital or the children's home.

According to the notice, HLCM had for years subsidized the Bethlehem operations from other funds and other programs. It had decided to close the hospital, it said, in order to maintain other charitable activities at a sustainable level, "and continue to benefit thousands of Palestinians."

An attempt to clarify the matter with HLCM in Kansas City proved unfruitful. Gripkey himself would not come to the phone, but an employee who would only describe herself as "Vicky" said that the takeover was illegal.

"Everything we have to say is in our statement," she said.

Lea Perez, a spokeswoman for the US consul-general in Jerusalem, said the consulate had been informed of the takeover and was looking into the matter.

Asked if the takeover was not cause for concern among all foreign charitable organizations working in the Arab sector, Johnson of the Lutheran World Federation said the process of the takeover – and especially whether the HLCM actually owned the facility – was unclear.

"If [the hospital] is clearly titled and registered in the name of the organization and is still subject to a takeover, then it's an obvious cause for concern," he said.

After the attack: The diplomatic response from the US

When the US peace-process team got the dreaded call, it became the official condolence-response team. **Hillel Kuttler** reports from Washington

IT was too quet in Israel – too peaceful, even. Exactly one week ago, the US peace-process team was holding its daily morning meeting at the State Department, half expecting something to happen. It did.

"We were discussing Friday how surprisingly quiet it's been and that it wouldn't last," recalled a participant in the meeting of the team coordinated by Dennis Ross. "So we were on tenterhooks waiting for something to happen."

It took less than 48 hours for that something – the Beit Lid bombings – to happen.

By the time the group reassembled Monday morning, the mood was "very somber, a real feeling of 'Here we go again, another effort to derail the peace process,' " he said.

By then, Prime Minister Rabin had decided not to suspend negotiations with the PLO, so the US considered the talks unlikely to unravel.

In the American view, despite the enormity of the tragedy, Beit Lid did not threaten the talks as did last February's massacre in Hebron's Cave of the Patriarchs, or Israel's mass deportation of Gaza radicals in 1992.

Another US official said that was so for a number of reasons. First, in the case of Hebron, "they went to the Security Council; we are on the Security Council; therefore, it [was] our problem."

Second, the killing of the 29 Palestinians predated the May 4 Cairo agreement that implemented the Declaration of Principles and institutionalized Israeli-PLO contacts.

"Now, Israelis and Palestinians have a relationship. What they [Israelis] would've addressed to us, they address to the Palestinians," the official said.

Finally, unlike the Hebron and deportees crises, the Beit Lid bombing was not "an extended crisis" necessitating prolonged, intensive US involvement.

The US response began shortly after 5 a.m. on Sunday (Washington time), when news from Beit Lid was passed on to peace-team members at home by the White House's situation room and the State Department's operations center.

By seven that morning, Ross (the peace team's special coordinator), Martin Indyk (of the National Security Council) and their staffs began working on a condolence letter to Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, as well as on a White House statement condemning the attack.

NSC head Anthony Lake and Israeli ambassador Itamar Rabinovich were out of town, but kept in telephone contact with the peace team.

Three hours later President Clinton approved the statement and Secretary of State Warren Christopher okayed the condolences.

"Our first concern," said a senior administration official, "was to try to be clear about the unacceptability of this and try to take a public position that would provide reassurance to Israelis, and provide moral leadership in terms of condemnation.

"That's why we called on all parties to condemn terrorism, because *it's clear that the Arab parties* in the process are also opposed to this."

Later in the day, the US pursued further diplomatic paths.

Christopher phoned Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Shara to register Washington's displeasure with Damascus's harboring of Fathi Shikaki, leader of an Islamic Jihad faction that claimed responsibility for the attack.

He called on Shara to remove the Shikaki group and others from Syria.

Christopher told Shara that Syria's conducting peace talks with Israel was incompatible with its offering safe haven to terrorists like Shikaki.

Ross also phoned Arafat and impressed upon him the importance the US attached to his apprehending and detaining – not merely rounding up and later releasing – those involved in the bombing.

Additionally, US embassies in the region urged the Jordanian, Egyptian and Lebanese leaderships to condemn the killings and stand by the peace process. After that, Arafat, Jordan's King Hussein and Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak called Rabin.

The US then took one more step that day.

"When it became clear in the afternoon that this incident was like the straw that broke the camel's back, that it had really put Israeli public opinion over the edge, it was clear we had to do something more – and that's why the president wrote his letter to Rabin, [describing as] sickening [the] sight of Palestinian extremists celebrating [the attack]," the official said.

THE US was guided by four principles in coping with the current crisis and ensuring the success of the broader negotiations, deputy peace-process coordinator Aaron Miller told a B'nai B'rith group this week.

He described them thus: Israeli security and Palestinian institution-building go hand-in-hand; an Israeli-Syrian agreement is crucial to attain regional peace; Israel's integration into the region "must be accelerated"; and economic development will "reduce the prospects of alienation and extremism."

For now, the administration believes Arafat has taken some necessary steps to respond to Israel's minimum requirements.

Included are the Palestinian Police's arrest of four leaders of Hamas and Islamic Jihad, and condemning the Beit Lid killings.

Officials say he has also welcomed Clinton's decision Tuesday to freeze the US assets of Middle East terrorist groups.

Regarding the Israeli government, the US continues to play down reports it is concerned that the security factor is chipping away at Rabin's popular mandate.

Last week, the assistant secretary for Near East affairs, Robert Pelletreau, charged that a *Ma'ariv* report to that effect contained "fabrications" and "gross mischaracterizations."

"We are not alarmed by the survivability of Rabin," a US official said on Wednesday. "We support the government of the prime minister as he deals and struggles with these complicated issues. He absolutely has our support as he moves ahead."

As to the *Ma'ariv* report's claim that a US Information Agency official would travel to Israel to scrutinize Rabin's standing, the official said that this, too, was "a gross misunderstanding of a long-planned trip."

Asked whether the administration's role in the aftermath of the bombings in Hadera, Afula, Tel Aviv and now Beit Lid has become routine, another official demurred.

"Perhaps it goes a little more smoothly, but these are not routine matters," he said.

"You dread that morning phone call and wonder how many Israelis were killed this time. Every morning that's not interrupted is a blessing for the peace process.

"It's not a routine by any means, but it's something we've come to expect."

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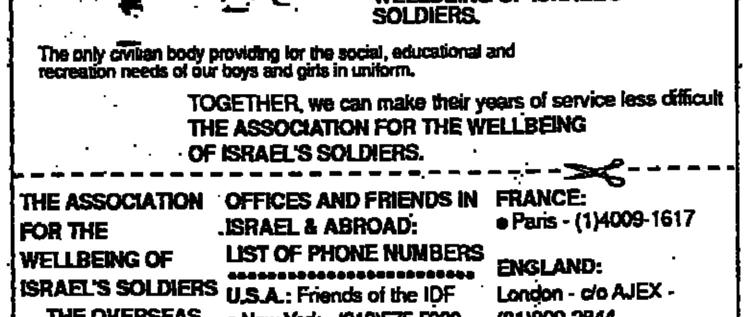

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62-145/1

NATIONAL INSURANCE INSTITUTE

Notice to Salaried Workers regarding Reform in Collection of National Insurance Dues consequent on the introduction of the Law to Reduce Poverty and Excessive Differences in Income, and the National Health Law

The main changes in the collection of NII dues, effective January 1, 1995, are set out below:

a. Deduction of monies for NII dues and Health Insurance dues will be made, by reference to two income strata:

From salary up to NIS2,042 (i.e., half the average national wage) the deduction for NII dues will be **half** the former rate (2.66% instead of the previous rate of 5.35%). The deduction for Health Insurance dues will be 3.1%. The total deduction for NII and Health Insurance dues will be **5.76%.**

For salary over this level, up to the salary ceiling on which insurance dues are payable, NII dues at a rate of 4.9% (previously 5.35%) and Health Insurance dues at a rate of 4.8% will be deducted. The total deduction for NII and Health Insurance dues will be **9.7%**.

b. The salary ceiling for payment of insurance dues is raised, and is now 4 times the average national salary (NIS16,332, instead of 3 times the average national wage, as previously).

c. All earned salary on which income tax is payable is now subject to NII dues:

Vehicle allowance; traveling allowance (to work and home); holiday allowance; telephone allowance; value of subsidized meals; value of use of vehicle provided by employer; value of interest, as defined in Para. 3 (Tet) of the Income Tax Regulations; and sums paid by employers into a studies fund or pension fund, in excess of the limits set in the Income Tax Regulations.

As a result, the salary base from which financing is derived for the payment of benefits, paid to replace wages, will be broadened, and all salary subject to tax will be taken into account in calculating such benefits: unemployment allowance, childbirth allowance, work-accident compensation, work-accident disability benefits, and *army reserve service compensation payments.*

Information and Public Relations

Labor holds fire against Weizman in its PR war

Behind his polite rejection of the president's statement, the prime minister is seething, **Sarah Honig** writes

COMMUNICATIONS Minister Shulamit Aloni of Meretz, never one to keep her opinions to herself, scathingly scored President Ezer Weizman this week for not having kept his opinions to himself.

The president, she contended, had done nothing less than "undermine the government and attempt to undermine the entire peace process."

Aloni, in her inimitable way, said what many in the coalition reserve for private conversations but dare not utter for attribution.

There is enormous repressed anger towards Weizman, which remains unvented "because it's wiser to pretend that nothing is amiss and hope the din dies down," a Labor minister admitted.

The battle in which the government is now embroiled is a battle in which "appearances are all that count," the minister explained. "But nevertheless, it is a desperate life-and-death struggle for the government's very survival. For Labor to be returned to power, we must seem to be winning the battle with the terrorists in order to win the crucial PR war.

"To protect the government's bruised image it's vital not to magnify the effect of Weizman's words by a display of hurt and fury. Rabin had no choice but to phone the president and claim that no offense was taken by Weizman's call for suspension of the negotiations with the PLO and for an exhaustive review of the government's entire policy.

"It was likewise essential that Rabin, too, make a direct pitch to the public via TV as a counterweight to what Weizman had done," the minister judged.

There is no denying that grave political damage was done to the government. Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer had been complaining in the cabinet for a long time that "we can't go anywhere without being booed." Rabin felt it acutely when he visited the Beit Lid bomb site and was surrounded by onlookers who spontaneously began chanting, "Rabin is guilty."

Weizman's appeal for a reassessment came on top of this and on top of Rabin's already steep slide in the polls, after several weeks in which nothing was going right for the government and which culminated in Rabin calling his own party's MKs "morons."

So when Weizman said, "Things cannot go on this way," he created what the minister called "a political fact. Weizman said the government was wrong and he hit the government when it was down. It'll be very hard to make the effect of Weizman's interview go away. It's not something which can be mended by a brief phone chat between two old pals."

THE FACT is that Weizman and Rabin are not even pals and never were.

There is a long history of bad blood between them. It was Weizman who made public Rabin's collapse on the eve of the Six Day War and who talked of his excessive drinking. Rabin, always one to bear a grudge, never forgave Weizman. It's an open secret that the PM didn't really want Weizman as president, but didn't relish another clash with his archrival Shimon Peres, who was ardently backing Weizman.

This week, there were Laborites who recalled this and who made it a point to note Weizman's past as a Likud minister, before he traded in his hawk's feathers for those of an ultra-dove. Their thesis was that the old Weizman is now showing his true feathers.

Keen political ears in Labor could not overlook nuances in what Weizman said, "which go beyond simply calling for time out," as a very top Labor official said. "Weizman's tone and little asides indicate that he was not just making an emotional plea off the cuff under the influence of the horrific impressions of the moment."

Weizman: Did he tap into a powerful public mood or was he simply sounding off? (Isaac Harari)

The official noted that Weizman "seemed to have listened well to everything Rabin said at his Beit Lid press conference. The president then meticulously took apart each Rabin argument. Rabin made it a point to stress that the PLO can't be held accountable for what Palestinians do under Israel's rule. Weizman appeared out to debunk the Rabin contention. He took pains to stress that Israel had the right to expect Arafat to control the population he claims to represent, whether it is in Nablus or Gaza."

The official further pointed to remarks which "may not have attracted much attention due to the hullabaloo over halting the peace process. But while making this major point, Weizman also sardonically said, 'I realize that prizes were even handed out.' He was obviously commenting tongue-in-cheek about the Nobel Peace Prize [shared recently by Rabin, Peres and Arafat]. He depicted the government as marching recklessly through a mine field without checking the terrain. All this and many more details of what Weizman said, and how he said it," led the Labor official to conclude that "Weizman's intentions weren't too friendly."

At Beit Hanassi, the position is that Weizman simply tapped into a powerful public mood. He felt it could not be blithely ignored and that, in times of crisis, the president must break his silence and give voice to the common man.

On the morning of the Beit Lid blasts, Weizman was touring Kiryat Gat and talking to high-school pupils. He sensed that the disillusion with the peace process and bitterness expressed by his young audience couldn't be brushed aside. The many letters, telegrams and phone calls pouring into the presidential residence overwhelmingly applauded the president's call on the government to "stop now, so that it can go on later."

Environment Minister Yossi Sarid, not quite as blunt as Aloni, his rival for Meretz leadership, dismissed "whatever is said about this at Beit Hanassi. It doesn't matter one bit what they think in that house about what the president did. The one undeniable fact is that he kindled a great political conflagration."

Presidents were not all zip-lipped

EVELYN GORDON

PRESIDENT Ezer Weizman showed a hint of the young Ezer this week when he once again shocked the nation with his words.

This time, the shock came not from the use of crude language, but from the violation of what is seen as a long-standing tradition that the president does not speak out on political issues.

This is not a tradition with any basis in law, however. The only prohibition on a president's activity is that he may not travel abroad without the government's consent. He can be impeached for "behavior unbefitting the status of the presidency," but this is not defined.

Prof. Yehezkel Dror of the Hebrew University's political science department agrees that Weizman's statements "deviated" from the presidential norm. But the tradition started with the first president, Chaim Weizmann. Weizmann, he said, wanted a more active role for the presidency, but prime minister David Ben-Gurion strongly opposed this, and Ben-Gurion's forceful personality carried the day.

"[The tradition] evolved because of Israel's strong prime ministers," Dror said. "And they usually picked consensus-builders for president.... Because of [the president's] role in choosing the prime minister, it was important to keep him out of party strife."

Until now, it has been the president who decides after every election which party to ask to form a government.

"[Political statements] build up certain tensions in [the president's] functions [as a national unifier]," Dror added. "Once he expresses political opinions on controversial issues, he can be attacked."

But Prof. Abraham Diskin, also of the Hebrew University's political science department, argued that this tradition of political restraint exists more in the public's mind than in fact.

"Many times, the president has expressed an opinion on what form the government should take: if it should be a broad government, if it should be a national unity government," he said. All Israeli presidents have "spoken out on political issues. I don't think what Weizman said was exceptional."

He cited the example of former president Chaim Herzog, who spoke out very strongly about electoral reform, an issue that was a focal point of public controversy during his tenure.

"[But] the president does have to be a symbol for all of us," Diskin concluded. "Therefore, he [tends to refrain] from extreme statements. I don't remember any president who made extreme remarks."

This pilot gets high on flying into storm clouds

THE WEEK THAT WAS

MICHAL YUDELMAN

FEW pilots of the national destiny are as blase about heading for storm clouds as our popular president, Ezer Weizman. He unhesitatingly steered the presidential craft into bumpy political weather this week, demanding an end to negotiations with the PLO and suggesting that Labor and Likud get a joint act together.

It all brought to mind a *Jerusalem Post* report from last summer which looked at Weizman as a possible candidate for prime minister under direct elections.

The report said Weizman's name had been floated by American Jewish leaders who, with scant regard for Israel's constitutional niceties, saw him as the ideal figure to unite the country's divisive left and right wings.

They were impressed by the super-dovish former Air Force hero who is also close to radical-right settler leaders in Judea and Samaria. To top it all, he was immensely popular with all sectors of the electorate.

Thus it seemed the American cousins were set to persuade Weizman to run in 1996 – and were willing to fund his campaign.

Weizman characteristically bah-humbugged the whole idea as "ludicrous," and Beit Hanassi sternly reminded the *Post* that the president had been elected for five years and served two.

That brief storm, like this week's, swiftly blew itself out. Whatever the political ins and outs, there lingered a feeling that Weizman's raffish character and unbridled opinions may have shot the idea down in flames – "Meidele, go learn to knit socks," he once told a woman who wanted to be an air-force pilot.

Housing Minister Fuad: Doing his best to hold tight in stormy weather. (D. Rubinger)

Nonetheless, it is doubtful whether the man who said he was never tempted in 30 years to slap his wife will desist from whacking the political establishment around the ears when he thinks it necessary. No wonder he's so popular.

EXIT, PURSUED BY A BEAR

If the president delights in flying through storms, he could find no more turbulent skies than those that brood and rumble over the Housing Ministry.

As it is, it's Housing Minister Fuad (Ben-Eliezer) who is currently dangling on the end of a shredding parachute. The ill-starred Fuad's director-general, Arye Mizrahi, took a hike this week as the "Greater Jerusalem" construction scandal whistled through the ill-constructed corridors of powerlessness.

Fuad, in brief, was left in the lurch, or as he succinctly summed it up, "in shock."

Alexander Goldfarb: Just can't seem to get enough – work, that is. (Yossi & Uzi)

Ministry workers confess with sighs that they have never weathered such stormy times. And this ministry has seen some hurricanes.

First came the fiasco of Fuad appointing Yossi Ginossar, the mythical "Gimmel" of the General Security Services, as director-general. Ginossar was promptly disqualified by the High Court of Justice due to his association with notorious GSS scandals.

Then came the State Comptroller's Report accusing the ministry of sinister doings. A failure to halt soaring housing prices followed, and now the Jerusalem construction saga.

And now exit Mizrahi. The coolest cat and best-looking former director-general in the civil service said only that he has "consummated himself" in the ministry.

No double entendre intended.

WHAT FUAD DIDN'T NEED, PART 2

The newest housing ministry asset, Deputy Minister Alexander Goldfarb (Yi'ud) – swiftly dubbed Alexander the Great by a local rag – now has a title. All he needs is a job.

MK Yossi Beilin: Struck by an idea that helped the peace process along. (S. Uziely)

Goldfarb nestled into the comfortable bureau vacated by Eli Ben-Menahem and Shas's Arye Gamliel (yes, another former deputy housing minister), turfing out Mizrahi's deputy Shlomo Niv. Mizrahi objected and Goldfarb insisted.

"Oh well," said Fuad, "we can't create a coalition crisis over a bureau."

The bureau is delightfully sited in a secluded structure across a picturesque parking lot from the main ministry. It is in fact so secluded, confide earnest ministry sources, that a certain deputy minister could even come to work at 1:45 and leave at 2:15, and no one would notice.

Ahem, when he gets work, of course. The latest bright idea, they say, hinges on Goldfarb's Romanian roots. What the ministry desperately needs is a translator for all those imported Romanian construction workers.

CLOAK AND DAGGER

Two months before the 1992 elections, Dov Rendel of the Histadrut's department for international relations set up a meeting between MK Yossi Beilin, now deputy foreign minister, and Terje Rod Larsen, former chairman of FAFO, the Norwegian trade unions' social economic research institute.

At that time Larsen was researching living conditions in Gaza and the territories along with Mariana Heininger, wife of the late Norwegian foreign minister Johann Vargen Horst.

An idea struck Larsen and Beilin: Why not establish a secret channel between the Israelis and Palestinians, with the help of Norwegian friends? The rest is history.

Larsen, the Norwegian mediator in the Oslo talks, is now the UN's special coordinator in the territories. With an office in Gaza, he was close by when the Histadrut decided to award him its peace prize. It will be awarded tomorrow at a festive dinner in Tel Aviv's Dan Panorama.

LOVELY CLOTH; FEEL THE CUT

The familiar flap of brown Bulgarian suits may still be heard at the Histadrut convention opening Sunday but, make no mistake, this is the end of the Histadrut as we know it.

Ramon calls it the Reform Convention. More aptly, it's the Elimination Convention and the curtain is poised to drop on the 73-year-old act of the Zionist founding fathers.

History indeed, for by Monday night's close the Histadrut will have a new name, new institutions and even a new home. Bulgarian suits and Israeli open-neck shirts will be swapped for blazers and ties.

Whatever remains, it will not be the Histadrut.

Since Labor lost the Histadrut elections last May, the government has lost all interest in its former backbone. Even the Histadrut's Labor faction is broke and bust, an atrophied appendix dangling under surgeon Haim Ramon's knife.

A KISS IS JUST A KISS

This chuckle of the week comes courtesy of *The Economist's* intelligence newsletter *Foreign Report.*

Apparently, the Palestinian Authority has broken off contact with Lyonnaise des Eaux-Dumex, a French water company, after its chairman Jerome Monod gave reporters the following account of a meeting with Yasser Arafat:

"To obtain Arafat's agreement on water purification in the Gaza Strip I had to wait 15 hours before being drive at 150 km an hour through the streets of Tunis to meet a sick man under the influence of drugs who hugged me and kissed me and the mouth"

Wash your mouth out, Monsieur Monod.

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Joel Sprayregen, Vice-Chairman, Anti-Defamation League
Dr. Avi Beker, Executive Director, World Jewish Congress
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Israel's squabbling starts at the top

CAPITAL TALK

TEDDY KOLLEK with Amos Kollek

THE other day I read in the newspaper that the war between Russia and Chechnya had found its way to our own backyard: Somewhere here in Israel, Jews from Russia were fighting with Jews from Chechnya.

And I thought: Why not? After all, it has become a national pastime for everybody to fight with everybody about anything and everything.

Israel is probably one of the most fractious nations in the world. A very dubious accomplishment. Wherever you find 10 Israelis you'll hear 11 opinions. There are a lot of jokes about this national trait, but the joke is really on us.

After almost every cabinet meeting the news broadcast shows various cabinet ministers being interviewed, and they never agree about anything. They all blame one another for one thing or another, and criticize the very government of which they are members.

The Likud fell from power in 1992 at least partly because of the endless bickering and inner fighting of its leaders, and two years later it seems that Labor is peculiarly eager to follow suit.

Yitzhak Rabin, who every day shows uncommon courage and backbone in dealing with great external forces (the Americans, the Syrians, the Palestinians, the Jordanians, to name a few), seems remarkably soft when it comes to his own ministers and party members. He appears to disconnect himself from that issue: let them fight if they want to.

Unfortunately, he can't afford that. Nor can the nation. Strength starts from within. If we are weak and divided among ourselves our strength will vanish and we'll end up crumbling like a fortune cookie.

It is high time Rabin whipped his government into shape. There are many mediocre people in the cabinet, which is an excellent reason to replace them. But an even more important reason is their lack of respect for the principles of discipline, unity and responsibility, which trickles down from the government to the Knesset members and to the common citizen.

Even in a vast country like the US there are basically only two parties, and the cabinet functions without rebellion and externalized dissent as one body under the leadership of the president. When for the first time in 45 years a president gets a Senate and a Congress with opposition majorities it is considered a major upheaval.

But how does it compare with a cabinet and a Knesset where nobody agrees on anything and everybody seems to have his own agenda? It almost makes you wish, heaven forbid, for a dictatorship instead of a democracy.

But since democracy is clearly the best and only acceptable system in existence for a modern country, let's use it to unite rather than divide.

As a supporter of Rabin, of the Labor Party and of the Labor-led government, I hope the prime minister will show the same fortitude and decisiveness he displayed in the peace negotiations and enforce discipline on his own cabinet and set an example for the rest of Israel.

Then maybe Chechnyan and Russian Jews won't be fighting in our streets – and even the Orthodox and the secular, the left and the right, will think of ways of working together toward a common goal rather than make us all lose sight of why we came to this country in the first place.

The obsession with Deir Yassin

EYE ON THE MEDIA

DAVID BAR-ILLAN

NO incident in the history of the Arab-Israel conflict has been used by Arab propagandists more persistently and effectively than the battle of Deir Yassin.

That the story achieved mythological proportions as a tale of senseless slaughter by Jewish extremists was due not to what actually happened. *The tale acquired special credibility* because the Jewish Agency – then the precursor of the government of Israel – used it to bash the Irgun Zvai Leumi (IZL), the "dissident" group that led the operation.

Agency head David Ben-Gurion not only condemned the battle as a massacre. He sent an official apology for the killings to King Abdullah of Jordan, whose Arab Legion was savagely destroying Jewish settlements at the time.

Not surprisingly, the Agency's indictment of the IZL as slaughterers encouraged foreign writers to perpetuate the Deir Yassin myth. Despite repeated investigations and eyewitness testimony by both Arabs and Jews, the myth has survived.

When three weeks ago Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert recommended naming a street in Jerusalem after IZL commander Joshua Goldschmidt, who participated in planning the operation, one opponent of the idea signed up some 70 residents of a senior citizens' home on a letter to *The Jerusalem Post* (published last Friday) to *protest the move.*

The use of the letters section – one of the most widely read in any paper – for purposes of disinformation is not uncommon. The Soviets used it with great skill, and today pro-Arab propagandists regularly plant fictitious anti-Israel stories in such letters.

There are no doubts about the fundamental facts of the Deir Yassin battle. The place was not "a quiet village," as the letter describes it. According to the Israel Office of Information publication of 1960 (under the Labor government), "this village had been for long a nest of Arab snipers and armed bands."

The operation was approved by Colonel David Shaltiel, district commander of the Hagana and appointed by Ben-Gurion, who sent a note to that effect to the IZL commander in Jerusalem. ("I have no objection to your carrying out the operation provided you are able to hold the village.") The taking of the village enabled the Hagana to build an airfield in the area, which served as the only means of communication between besieged *Jerusalem and the coast.*

If the attackers – 80 IZL and 40 Lehi fighters – had intended to massacre the village inhabitants they went about it in a strange way. Before firing a single bullet, they broadcast a warning from a loudspeaker mounted on an armored car.

This not only enabled noncombatants to leave (the 200 or so who heed*ed the warning found shelter in a wadi* below the village and survived unscathed); it also deprived the attackers of the element of surprise, which cost them dearly.

Arab sources confirm this. On the fifth anniversary of the battle, the Jordanian daily *Urdun* published a statement by one of Deir Yassin's elders, Yunes Ahmad Assad: "The Jews did not intend to hurt the villagers, but were forced to do so when the inhabitants fired on them, killing their commander."

A propaganda pamphlet called "Israeli aggression," issued by the Arab League secretariat in the 1950s, contains the following in the section about Deir Yassin: "Loudspeakers calling on the village inhabitants to evacuate it startled the peaceful village of Deir Yassin which is in the Jerusalem suburbs." The pamphlet then describes a quick capitulation of the village, after which, it says, 250-300 villagers were tortured and massacred. But two days after the battle, Medical Association physicians made a thorough examination of the dead and asserted all died of bullet wounds and shrapnel. Their report is in the IDF archives.

That there was no massacre is obvious also from the fact that about 200 villagers, mostly women and children, were assembled in neighboring Givat Shaul and trucked to eastern Jerusalem to find shelter. (Even this humanitarian act was described in the *Arab pamphlet as an atrocity. The* women, it says, were undressed and driven exposed through Jerusalem to be photographed and mocked by the Jewish population.)

The battle for Deir Yassin was one of the toughest confrontations with "irregulars" in the whole War of Independence. Four IZL fighters died and 40 were wounded in seven hours of *house to house fighting against armed* irregulars holed up in the village. The number of Arab dead was close to 200. That many of them were noncombatants was due to the Arab proclivity for using civilians as shields.

Hizbullah is doing this in Lebanon today; the PLO did it in the Lebanon war; and the Palestinian Arabs resorted to the same tactics in the 1936-39 intifada and the War of Independence. Even the British complained of Arabs dressed as women, using children as shields, and firing from civilian residences.

Nor was there a difference between the way the Arabs fought the IZL and the Hagana. The clearing of Arab strongholds in villages by the Hagana invariably caused a tremendous number of civilian casualties. But none of these battles, which in some cases ended with an even larger civilian toll than Deir Yassin, was branded "a massacre."

That the Arabs spread horror stories about the operation is hardly surprising. Their description of the atrocities was similar to what really happened when Arabs slaughtered Jews in Hebron, Jerusalem, Safed, Motza, et al. It was efficient propaganda and undoubtedly helped tarnish Israel's image. It is even understandable – though not forgivable – that Ben-Gurion, obsessed with fear of an IZL putsch – propagated the "massacre" canard.

But what is totally incomprehensible is the regurgitation of the libel today by those who object to naming a street after Goldschmidt. Perhaps the most offensive part of their letter is their description of the massacre of the 77 medical personnel on their way to Hadassah Hospital as the "price we had to pay for Deir Yassin." The letter's authors even claim the murderers of the doctors and nurses yelled "Deir Yassin!" as they were firing on the convoy.

Since there were no survivors, there is no way to disprove this. But the fact is that attacks on convoys were not *only a regular feature of the* 1936-39 intifada a decade before; they began anew the day after the UN partition declaration on November 29, 1947. Seven Jews were killed by ambushers on November 30; by the end of the week 105 Jews had been murdered, mostly on the roads. By February the "Arab campaign of assassination and terror reached its peak," according to the government information pamphlet. On March 27, two weeks *before* Deir Yassin, 40 Jews lost their lives when a convoy from Gush Etzion was ambushed in Nebi Daniel.

Yet there are Israelis today who are capable of blaming the Deir Yassin operation for the attack on the Hadassah convoy, one of the most egregious atrocities since World War II.

It makes one wonder if 47 years from now there will be Israelis who, parroting the current Arab line, will say that the killing of three Palestinian policemen in Gaza caused the slaughter at Beit Lid.

Peres's Jerusalem Syndrome

A VIEW FROM NOV

MOSHE KOHN

CAN Foreign Minister Shimon Peres's detachment from reality indicate that he has been visited by the Jerusalem Syndrome?

This condition appears in Jews and Christians, foreign visitors and Israelis, who, "fall[ing] victim to the raptures of the religious Jerusalem," suddenly declare themselves to be King David, Messiah, Jesus returned and the like. Or they announce that God has appeared to them and given them a message to transmit to humanity. (Prof. Jordan Scher and Dr. Eli Witztum described *the symptoms in interviews with Sue Fishkoff, The Jerusalem Post Magazine*, September 6, 1991.)

Peres has given no indication that he views the world, or even the Jewish people and Eretz Yisrael and the connection between the two, through a religious prism. Nor am I aware that he identifies with anybody in the Tanach, though he has sometimes indicated that he likes Prophet Isaiah.

But he does exude an air of having been entrusted with a Divine message and a determination to compel us to see his visions as reality.

One of his mirages is the "New Middle East," which Israel will lead the world in creating.

The only problem is that our neighbors who are to build and share this new world with us see it differently. The New Middle East of their dream is clean of any sovereign Jewish presence, of the "Zionist entity," of the Jewish state, of Israel.

Seer Shimon envisions the transformation of the anti-Jewish Arab League into a "Mediterranean League" of which Israel will be an equal, honored member. The Arabs will *have* to make that change, says Prophet Peres.

Another indication of Peres's detachment from reality was his reply to an Israel Television reporter's question on Sunday, after the Beit Lid outrage, whether he didn't agree that Israel had made too many unreciprocated concessions to the PLO.

With all the righteous indignation he could muster Peres retorted: "*What* concessions?"

Finally, a Blakean revelation: "'Greater Jerusalem' is a literary term," saith Shimon.

IT WOULDN'T surprise me to learn that the Aloni-Sarid-Peres (ASP for short) team is laying the groundwork for the materialization of a 1976 dream of novelist/essayist A.B. Yehoshua, a mentor of many Israeli called liberals. That was the time of the flowering of the Gush Emunim settlement movement, so detested by most left-wing liberals.

Yehoshua wrote: "Really now, why all this hysteria?... Let's encourage them to go on establishing settlements beyond the Green Line. Then, when peace comes and we are rid of the territories, we will also be rid of them [the "settlers"]...." (*Ha'aretz*, January 23, 1976.)

Wouldn't it be clever of our "post-Zionist" leadership to disqualify the eligible voters among the Jews of Judea/Samaria/Gaza District/eastern Jerusalem/Golan by discovering between now and the 1996 elections that they really live in a foreign country? (The only Israelis abroad who may vote are merchant-mariners and members of diplomatic missions.)

OUR SHAME, which our ASPs have been struggling so hard to conceal, has been exposed!

As a journalist – a member of that noble order of knights-defenders of the public's right to know – I consider it an honor to be the first to bring this revelation to the world's attention.

Deny it with all the righteous indignation, you ASPs; shout your denials from the Erez checkpoint, from the Orient House compound: you will no longer be believed. It has been revealed:

"Israel is the embodiment of the Zionist idea."

So writes Muhammed Nobani in the January 20 issue of *The Jerusalem Times*, the English-language PLO weekly organ.

For those who think the aim of the Zionist idea was to solve the "Palestinian problem," to create a "New Middle East," or to transform the Arab League into the "Mediterranean League," Nobani reminds us that the true aim was "Judaizing the land."

And he notes – this is the heart of his exposé – that "settlement building is by definition an intrinsic part" of the Zionist idea.

Note well: "*an intrinsic part.*"

To underscore this, Nobani *quotes the Arab thinker Abdul* Wahab Masiri: "Settlement building is the core and source of the Zionization of Israel."

(With thanks to Dr. Joseph Lerner of Jerusalem, head of IMRA/Independent Media Review and Analysis.)

COLONEL T.E. Lawrence ("of Arabia") also knew what our return to the land of our ancestors entailed and signified. Seventy-five years ago he said:

"...the Jew who leaves the country of his birth or adoption to live in Palestine must for a considerable time remain a stranger in the land of his forefathers. But if Zionism is to have any future this sacrifice must be faced. The Sultan of Egypt once remarked that a Zionist is a Jew who pays another Jew to live in Palestine. Until this idea can be driven out of the heads of Jew and non-Jew alike, there can be no real hope for Zionism. The working future of Zionism... lies in the realization by the intellectual and financial heads of the movement that they must... devote themselves personally as well as by financial means to the rebuilding of Palestine...." (interview published in the Zionist-owned and -edited, Jerusalem-based *Palestine Gazette*, December 26, 1919).

How different our history would be if many more Jews had heeded Lawrence's admonition and Chaim Weizmann's poignant outcry at that time, "Jewish People, where are you?"

SRULIK
by DOSH
RABIN IS LOSING HIS TOUCH...
THERE MUST BE A CREDIBLE ALTERNATIVE...
Netanyahu?...
PERES!
©

The chosen people and the choice

SHABBAT SHALOM

SHLOMO RISKIN

"And Moses came and told the people all the words of God, and all the judgments. And all the people answered with one voice, and said: 'All the words which God has said will we do.' "

(Ex. 24:2-4)

ARE we special because we are Jews or are we Jews because we are special? What is the source of our chosenness? Is it a unique Jewish gene, or is it rather the result of our acceptance of a moral and ethical doctrine called the Torah?

If the latter, then chosenness has nothing to do with race and everything to do with lifestyle.

According to Maimonides, birth alone doesn't guarantee uniqueness. Hence, when classical Judaism speaks of the chosenness of Israel to God, this concept applies not to a characteristic of race, but rather to the fact that we are the nation which lives an ethical and moral lifestyle mandated by the Torah.

Countering Maimonides, the great medieval sage Rabbi Yehuda Halevy claims that simply being born Jewish is in itself a *segula*, a sign of privilege and uniqueness. Rabbi Yehuda Halevy divides the world into four realms, from the inanimate to the world of vegetation, and from vegetation to living creatures, and from creatures to human beings. But above everything, God created the Jewish people, His own nation charged with a certain mission on earth; therefore each person born a Jew is endowed with a special *inyan Elohi*, a Godly element.

The differences between Maimonides and Rabbi Yehuda Halevy carry through on such basic issues as the ultimate efficacy of conversion and the ability to prophesy. According to Maimonides, a gentile who converts becomes a Jew in every sense of the word; after all, the Book of Ruth comes to teach that a sincere Moabite convert can become the forbearer of the Messiah.

But Rabbi Yehuda Halevy would emphasize certain limitations placed upon converts, and insist that real prophecy is the sole legacy of Israel.

This week's portion of *Mishpatim* seems to support Maimonides. The end of *Mishpatim* records what has to be the central covenant of the Jewish people as a nation. The entire portion is devoted to commandments.

The Torah records how Moses writes down all of God's words, then builds an altar where burnt-offerings are sacrificed. Moses then takes the book of the covenant, reads it to the people, and the people respond: "All that God has spoken, we will do and obey." This is the covenant, a turning point in Jewish history.

BUT THE fact this covenant appears at the end of *Mishpatim* forces us to ask why it wasn't handed down with the giving of the Ten Commandments, when the majesty of Mt. Sinai was still palpable.

For Maimonides, the belated introduction of the covenant poses no problem because he holds that what makes the Jewish people unique is the commandments – especially those between human beings. If we keep them, therein lies our uniqueness. Therefore the covenant is made only after a goodly portion of the commandments are presented.

This support for the Maimonidean position is reflected by the Midrash, wherein God approaches the nations of the world, offering each one the Torah. Only after they refuse, and the Israelites cry out unconditionally "We shall do and we shall obey," does God make His covenant with us – a covenant based upon our acceptance of His laws!

Rabbi Abraham Isaac Hakohen Kook, the former chief rabbi of Israel, seems to agree with Rabbi Yehuda Halevy, but in reality has a most cogent and mediatory position. In a letter written in 1927, he sheds light on the question of the uniqueness of the Jew by distinguishing between the Jewish people as a whole (*Knesset Yisrael*) and the Jew as an individual. Citing a Talmudic passage, "A gentile who occupies himself with Torah is as great as the high priest," *(Bava Kama* 38a) he develops the idea that all are equal – Jew, convert, Gentile – in their ability to achieve perfection.

But the Bible does guarantee – and this is its only promise – that the Israelite nation will never disappear from the family of nations, bearing the banner of Torah and commandments, leading the way toward world peace and redemption. **Shabbat Shalom**

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Law of total tricks

BRIDGE

MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

North dealer
North-South vulnerable

North
♠ QJ7
♡ K6
◇ Q105
♣ K9632

West
♠ 6
♡ Q87432
◇ A63
♣ 1085

East
♠ K83
♡ AJ9
◇ 9742
♣ AJ7

South
♠ A109542
♡ 105
◇ KJ8
♣ Q4

South	West	North	East
–	–	pass	1♣
1♠	pass	1NT	pass
2♠	3♡	(all pass)	

ONE of the newest bidding theories on the market today was discovered by one of the oldest living bridge theorists, Jean-Rene Vernes of France.

In the early 1950s, Vernes had the idea of applying statistical methods, used in biology and social sciences, to bridge bidding. He showed that the level of competitive bidding depends on distribution more than on the number of high cards. This idea developed into the Law of Total Tricks, which states: "The number of total tricks in a hand is approximately equal to the total number of trumps held by both sides, each in its respective suit."

Vernes, who is now 82, recently formed a partnership with Andrei Varlan, with whom he is planning a new bidding system.

A former teacher in Romania, Varlan now teaches bridge in France. He says Romanians, who love bridge, played a lot before 1982, when bridge was prohibited by law. The Ceausescu government feared that intellectuals and young people would find in bridge tournaments an opportunity to meet each other and conspire.

Books about bridge were rare there, but Varlan's father obtained them for his son and friends while abroad. Among the titles was *Bridge Moderne de la Defense* by Vernes. This book helped them make great improvements in a difficult part of the game: competitive bidding.

In 1986, Varlan's family left Romania for France. One night, at a local duplicate at Aix-en-Provence, Varlan gently growled at his partner who had not competed to three spades with nine trumps between the partnership, leaving the opponents in three hearts undoubled. His right-hand opponent asked if they knew about the Law of Total Tricks. He turned out to be Vernes himself, and the two immediately became friends.

The first article on the Law of Total Tricks appeared in *Bridge World Magazine* in 1969. It was not until last year, however, that the law became popular, when American Larry Cohen wrote a best-seller about the subject. The hand in this week's diagram illustrates the law perfectly. It was played in the world championship of 1962 between Italy and North America.

At one table, the auction began one club by East, which promised a balanced hand. South overcalled one spade and West passed. North's bid of one no-trump may appear eccentric to modern readers, who would expect North to make a cue bid in support of spades. In those days, however, the raise was often delayed until further rounds of bidding. South rebid two spades, showing six of them, and West ventured three hearts.

At this point, North should have raised his partner, but he chose to pass and three hearts became the final contract, making nine tricks. At the other table the auction was similar except that over three hearts the North player did bid three spades and his partner also made nine tricks. The Italians scored nine tricks at both tables, once in three hearts by East-West and once in three spades by North-South, for a total score of 280 points.

Now let's see how the law applies. Each partnership had nine trumps and relatively equal strength. Therefore, each side should have competed for nine tricks. The law says that the total number of trumps equals the total number of tricks, in this case 18.

It is a coincidence, however, that each side can make exactly nine tricks with its nine trumps. As an experiment, transfer the king of hearts to the South hand. Now South will score 10 tricks in a spade contract, while East will score only eight, but still the total is 18.

Among the 14 species of iris here, many bloom as early as February. (IPPA)

Early irises unfold

NATURE

D'VORA BEN SHAUL

MARCH and April are the peak months for enjoying wildflowers, but February offers some treats, among them the earliest irises.

Israel abounds in irises, with at least 14 species and new ones still being discovered. Of these a good many are early bloomers and though a few are strictly local attractions, others are found in many parts of the country.

The earliest irises are both yellow: the Grant-Duff's iris (*irus habitsot* in Hebrew; *Iris grant-duffii* in Latin) and the Palestinian iris (*irus eretz-yisraeli* in Hebrew; *Iris palaestina* in Latin).

The Grant-Duff's iris grows in the swampy areas of the north of Israel and, except for Syria, nowhere else. The Palestinian iris grows in both the hills and the coastal region.

But while seeking the gold of irises don't overlook two beautiful flowers blooming in the same colors and at the same time: the yellow Jacob's rod (*Asphodeline lutea* in Latin; *iryoni tzahov* in Hebrew) and Gagea (*Gagea commutata* in Latin; *zehavit hashluhot* in Hebrew). Both grow in the coastal area and both are of the lily family.

Along with the wild daffodil (*Narcissus tazetta* in Latin; the familiar *narkis matzui* in Hebrew) there are also some irises in the purple and bluish range. One of the most striking is the tall Nazareth iris (*Iris bismarckiana* in Latin; *irus natzrati* in Hebrew).

This imposing flower is of a peculiar speckled bluish-purplish color which nature enthusiast and wildflower expert Azaria Alon calls "a very peculiar color" in his guide to wildflowers. Although most common around Nazareth this flower is also found throughout Galilee.

The Yeroham iris (*Iris hieruchamensis* in Latin; *irus yeroham* in Hebrew) grows only in a small nature reserve near Yeroham. It is deep purple but has variations of brown and even yellow.

The Helena Maria iris is sometimes called the Negev iris in English as well as in Hebrew (*irus hanegev*). This tallish purple flower (*Iris mariae* in Latin) is named after Queen Helena, mother of Constantine. It can be found as early as the end of January throughout the Negev.

Do remember that all irises are strictly protected and one must not take flowers or corms.

Spectacular attacker

CHESS

NIGEL DAVIES

"HE'S very dangerous, like a drunk machine-gunner," is how Boris Spassky once described English grand master William Watson.

Since then, this has become something of a catchphrase in the chess-playing fraternity. The epithet "drunk machine-gunner" has come to be used to describe any player who knows *how* to attack, but not always *when*.

Among Israeli players I would put international masters Viktor Mikhalevsky and Emil Sutovsky into the category, though I suspect that in years to come they will both become more selective in choosing when to strike. Ilan Manor, on the other hand, is probably beyond redemption.

Perhaps the most dangerous drunk machine-gunner of them all is English grand master, Julian Hodgson. His play, if anything, is even wilder than that of Watson.

Hodgson, known for his carefree attitude, can play the most spectacular attacking games. This makes him a favorite with spectators and organizers alike; he never forgets the object of a chess game is to mate the enemy king.

The following game was played in round nine of the recent Groningen Christmas tournament, which was won by the young Hungarian star, Zoltan Almasi. At the time Hodgson had managed to register only a single point, his wild attacks having misfired. But in this game Boris Gulko pops his head out of the trench too soon.

Hodgson, J – Gulko, B
English Opening

1.c4

Not normally known to lead to wild tactical play, but then it isn't normally played by the Hodgsons of the world.

1...c5 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.Nc3 Nc6 5.a3 e6 6.b4!?

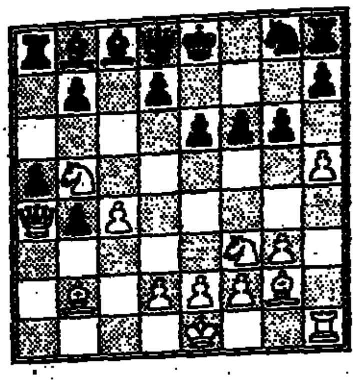
At one time this was thought to be a blunder in view of Black's reply. But subsequent analysis showed that White can make a gambit out of it by throwing in the kitchen sink as well.

6...Nxb4 7.axb4 cxb4 8.Nb5 Bxa1 9.Qa4 Be5?!

This attempt to defend the d6 square results in serious weaknesses being created on the kingside. Black should play 9...Bg7 and hold his nose.

10.Nf3 Bb8 11.Bb2 f6 12.h4! a5 13.h5

Hodgson certainly doesn't need any encouragement to attack. With the entry of his king's rook into the game, all his pieces are working.



13...gxh5 14.Rxh5 Qe7 15.Ng5! Ra6 16.Ne4 e5 17.c5 Kf8 18.Nbd6 Bxd6 19.Nxd6 Rxd6

Black tries to buy his freedom by returning the exchange. But White's initiative continues in the simplified position.

One of the remarkable features of this game is the fact that White's king remains on e1 until the end. In shogi, the Japanese relative of Western chess, they call it a "sitting king."

20.cxd6 Qxd6 21.d4!

Sweeping away the remnants of Black's pawn chain. White's dark-squared bishop is about to come into its own.

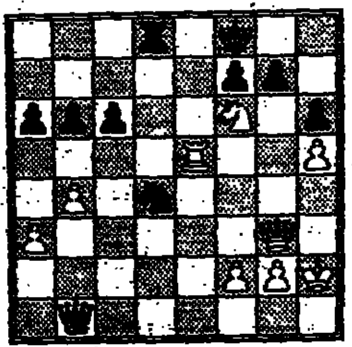
21...exd4 22.Rd5 Qc7 23.Rxa5 Ne7 24.Qxb4 d6 25.Rb5 Kg7 26.Qxd4 Rf8 27.g4! Qd7 28.Rh5 Kg8

If 28...Qxg4 then 29.Qxg4 Bxg4 30.Rg5+ wins the bishop.

29.g5 Qg4 30.gxf6 1-0

After 30...Qxh5 31.fxe7 there are too many threats.

THIS WEEK'S problem is from a game played at last year's Moscow olympiad between Lars Bo Hansen of Denmark and Jan Timman of the Netherlands. White to play and win.



Solution: White forced mate with 1.Re8+! Timman resigned rather than play it out with 1...Rxe8 2.Qd6+ Re7 3.Qd8+ Re8 4.Qxe8 mate.

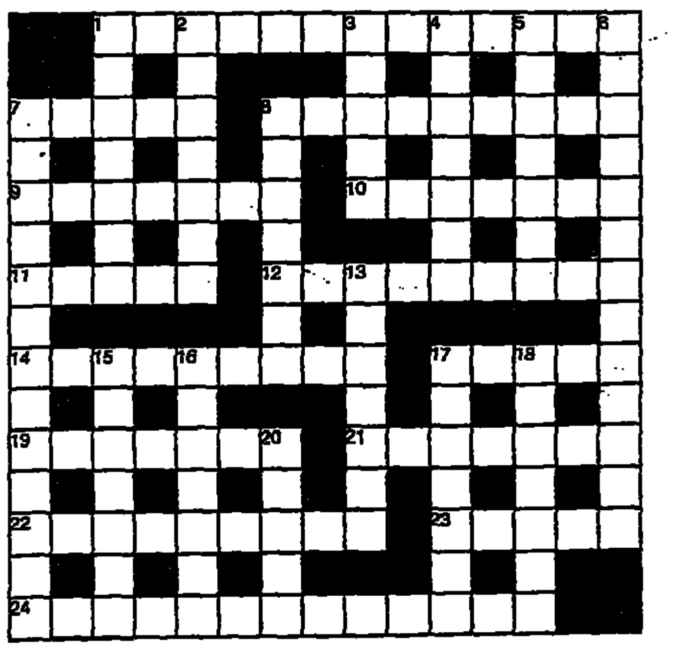
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

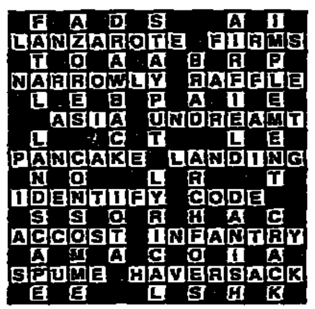
1 He looks for gifts displayed by a ceramicist (6-7)
7 Determined to attack (3,2)
8 Hock served with salted pork and fibre (9)
9 Hollow word of warning to a fraudster (7)
10 Be proud to produce a plan (7)
11 In Kiev a demonstrator needs help to escape (5)
12 State depicted by Thomas Lanier Williams (9)
14 Polish furniture used by Chopin lover daily (9)
17 Black fur (5)
19 A target set for current events show (7)
21 Keep on asking for fairy tales? (7)
22 Where to find Wagnerian heroes coming to blows (2,3,4)
23 Relaxed when relieved of pain (5)
24 Shocking weather (8,5)

DOWN

1 "There sleeps —— some time of the night" (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*) (7)
2 Descendants get wrinkles with increasing years (7)
3 Add it all together and pass judgment (3,2)
4 Not in business with me as a result (7)
5 Journeys around the church require some muscle (7)
6 Conservative clergyman becomes a bishop (5,8)
7 Arcane ritual observed by intelligence agents (6,7)
8 Not dance on one's toes? That's the dregs! (7)
13 Tending to make railway workers put on airs (7)
15 I'm stuck into the gin cocktail—it's a bedtime habit (7)
16 One held in open ward (7)
17 Drink with sapper doctor; the big boss, in fact (7)
18 Ship in flower—lots of it (7)
20 Bail I set for the defence (5)



SOLUTIONS



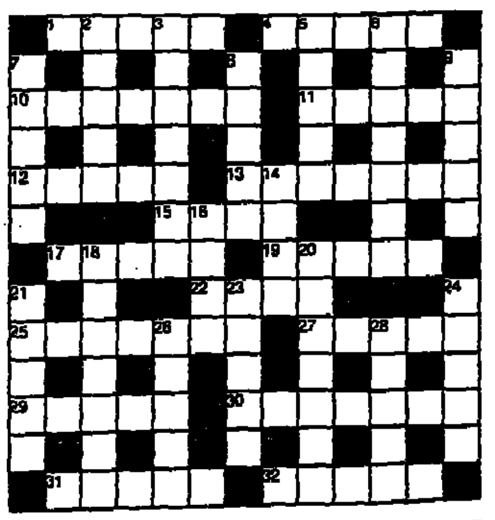
F A D S A I
LANZAROTE FIRMS
T O A A B R P
NARROWLY RAFFLE
L E B P A I E
ASIA UNDREAMT
L C T L E
PANCAKE LANDING
N O L R T
IDENTIFY CODE
S S O R H A C
ACCOST INFANTRY
A M A C O I A
SPUME HAVERSACK
E E L S H K

Yesterday's Quick Solution

ACROSS: 1 Autumn, 4 Attic, 8 Swear, 9 Realise, 10 Rebound, 11 Else, 12 End, 14 Dear, 15 Idea, 18 Yet, 21 Oust, 23 Recount, 25 Freedom, 26 Owing, 27 Range, 28 Peseta.

DOWN: 1 Assert, 2 Tremble, 3 Mortuary, 4 Adam, 5 Trial, 6 Clever, 7 Trade, 13 Disclose, 16 Erudite, 17 Coffer, 19 Tramp, 20 Stigma, 22 Stern, 24 Idle.

QUICK CROSSWORD

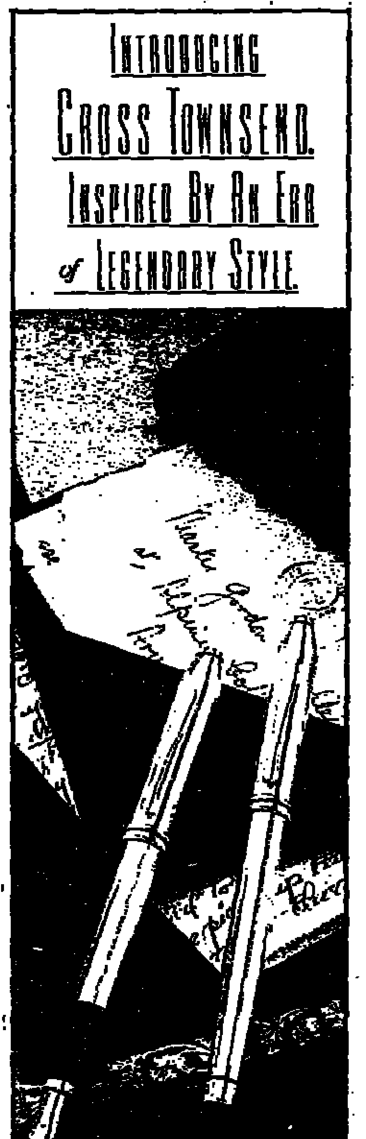


ACROSS

1 Bury (5)
4 Staff of life (5)
10 Monkshood (7)
11 Aggressively male (5)
12 Precipitous (5)
13 Place apart (7)
15 Indian nursemaid (4)
17 Buddhist destiny (5)
19 Fragrance (5)
22 Halt (4)
25 Philistine giant (7)
27 Stylistic talent (5)
29 Punitive (5)
30 Blend (7)
31 Religious belief (5)
32 Oneness (5)

DOWN

2 Lasso (5)
3 Pointed saying (7)
5 Lover (5)
6 Public praise (7)
7 Light wood (5)
8 Dark reddish-brown (5)
9 Witches' group (5)
14 Feign (4)
16 Steeped, dried barley (4)
18 Georgian capital (7)
20 Forbear (7)
21 Open-mouthed (5)
23 In the lead (5)
24 Supporting structure (5)
26 Apportion (5)
28 Jargon (5)



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It was a pleasure for me to attend and meet so many of our supporters, including the British consul-general, John White.

As you can see by our very short listing, we seem to have hit an all-time low in our fund-raising efforts. This is especially frustrating when we read letters each day pleading for help.

We cannot emphasize too strongly that it doesn't make any difference when donations are sent in, since we need funds all year round.

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$35 Henry and Miss Suzanne Bichrt, Palm Springs, CA.
$26 Anon., Skokie, IL.
$18 Lila Knoll, Wantagh, NY. In honor of our grandchildren, David, Marc, Stephen, Adam, Rachel and Emily – Mildred and Irving Sonenshine, Charleston, SC. In honor of Carol Stern on her birthday – Love, Oren, Nadav and Noa.
£50 In memory of our brother, Abraham Herrmann, who died in Safed in 1992 – Charles and Paula Herrmann, Cambria, England.
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NIS 54 3 x hai - in honor of the birth of Eitan Avraham, on Tuesday, April 26, 1994, firstborn son of Pnina and Navot Manor, first grandson to Chana and Menashe Broder – Lionel Gaffen and family, Kibbutz Kfar Giladi.
NIS 40 Noam and Freida Zarfaty, Rehovot.
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صكرا من الإصلاح

هكذا من الاصل

Oliver Sacks demonstrates a method to his madness

No person is normal, according to this neurologist-author, who is walking proof of his assertion. **Helena de Bertodano** reports from New York

WHEN Oliver Sacks was a young medical student, he met a dying tea-planter who jabbered deliriously and was avoided by everyone. But Sacks felt drawn to him and spent hours listening to what seemed to be a torrent of nonsense.

"Gradually his delirium began to make sense. It was like witnessing a dream, and eventually I managed to engage him in discussion," he recalls.

Sacks's absorption with the "muttering old fool" was seen as most peculiar by his fellow students.

Now, sitting in his office in Greenwich Village some 40 years later, Sacks believes that the encounter marked the beginning of his fascination with the far borders of human experience. "I felt I had become an anchor in the man's delirium," he says.

Sacks has recently completed *An Anthropologist on Mars*, seven biographical case studies in the same genre as his earlier book, *The Man Who Mistook His Wife For A Hat*. The book, to be published next week, delves into realms of human behavior that are so extraordinary, they are scarcely believable.

For someone who has acted as an anchor to dozens of people with bizarre neurological disorders, he seems strangely anchorless himself. He does not sit still for a second, and his conversation is eccentric, with so many changes of direction that you feel you are in a maze – or reading one of his books, with footnotes as long as the stories themselves.

Looking at his clothes you would not think this was midwinter. Sitting in a room with a chilling draft, Sacks is wearing a T-shirt, cotton trousers and sandals. His office has huge windows overlooking the Hudson River. He has a house on City Island, a quiet pocket of New York, but spends most of his time in his office, sometimes even sleeping here.

Apropos of nothing, he grabs a jar of manganese from the desk, pours out the chips and passes some to me. "I love manganese," he says, adding by way of explanation: "It forms big nodules on the floor of the ocean."

He pauses, stroking the little chips meditatively. "I love chemistry and elements and the periodic table. They give me a sense of stability – at least they provide something more stable than family relationships." He laughs nervously. "Manganese doesn't go away. It knows not to send you to the country and refuse to visit you."

This is a reference to his evacuation during the war, an event scored into Sacks's psyche. At the age of six, his Jewish parents sent him away from north London, where the family lived, to a "sadistic English boarding school."

Although he later became close to his parents, he believes those four years stunted his emotional growth.

"I'm inclined to think that period produced some disturbance in my socializing ability. I have never married or lived with anyone; I don't think I could bear it."

He tails off and is lost in thought for a few seconds before adding vehemently: "And yet I miss it. I don't really know what the answer is. I suppose that so long as I can be fairly involved in work then the empty house – and to some extent the empty life – doesn't distress me too much."

THERE IS something almost unbearably poignant about this brutal honesty. And yet it does not seem to be accompanied by self-pity. He talks about himself in a detached way, as though he is observing one of his patients.

His patients, in a way, are his anchor. Letters from people describing peculiar disorders alert him to new cases, and he investigates those that interest him most, acting as a medical Sherlock Holmes.

He has recently returned from Pinge Lap, a tiny "color-blind" island off Japan, where a quarter of the inhabitants have no cones in their eyes. He fetches his photographs of his time there, apologizing for the distraction: "I'm sorry, I didn't mean to divert you – but I'm afraid I consist of diversions."

He says that although his cases come to him randomly, he senses a profound link: "I am sure there is some deep connection, and they form a path which leads me deeper and deeper into human nature," he says.

The cases in his new book demonstrate how strange that nature can be.

There is the eminent surgeon who suffers from Tourette's Syndrome, a disorder characterized by involuntary outbursts and sudden movements.

Like an autistic woman he describes in his new book, Sacks sees himself as an anthropologist, observing people, yet feeling like an outsider.

Sacks assumes spasmodic arm movements as he describes the surgeon, a man who lunges at the ground and obsessively repeats phrases such as "Hi, Patty" – the name, it transpires, of a former girlfriend. Yet in the operating room the man calmly performs the most complex surgery with total professionalism.

Then there is Temple, the autistic woman who lends the book its title. Temple, though highly intelligent, cannot understand or feel emotions, and only knows how to react in social circumstances by imitating others. This, she says, makes her feel like an anthropologist on Mars. She longs, however, to be hugged and has invented a "squeeze machine" – a body-sized trough – to do just that.

When Sacks talks about Temple, he becomes rather self-conscious. He still sees her and obviously feels close to her.

"I very certainly empathize strongly with Temple and I've got some similarities there."

Like her, he has dedicated his life to work and he sees himself as an anthropologist, observing people yet feeling like an outsider.

"There is a very strong ambivalence in me about belonging. I want to be an insider, and then again, I don't," he says.

HIS AWKWARDNESS with the human race makes him an unlikely subject for fame. But his discovery of a drug to awaken the victims of the 1920s sleeping sickness dispensed with his anonymity forever.

In 1968 he administered L-Dopa to patients. They miraculously awakened, but the cure was short-lived, and they soon reverted into strange, unstable states. Many of them could not bear the discovery that they had missed nearly half a century. It was an extraordinary event, the stuff of legends, and was seized upon by Hollywood for the film *Awakenings*, with Robin Williams playing Sacks.

Does he ever regret using the drug, which one patient nicknamed Hell-Dopa? He says he hesitated for two years and decided that the patients had nothing to lose. "But when things were going very wrong, I did have a sense that I'd shaken them out of their calm into a torment."

Sacks says that there is no such thing as a normal person. He says that a disorder can become so much a part of someone that the brain cannot cope with a sudden cure.

"We think it is normal to see, but if someone has always been blind our insistence on 'normalizing' them may run into a great deal of trouble."

His knowledge of the complexities of the human brain makes him feel both excited and frightened, he says, stroking his beard, a trim tidy ghost of the tangled thatch it once was.

"It is wonderful to think that a tiny part of the brain can make such a difference, but I have to remind myself that I am also dealing with a vulnerable person. I try not to uncover more disabilities than a person can deal with."

One of his close friends, Prof. Richard Gregory, describes Sacks as a "wonderful communicator," adding that he has changed. "He's become more of the grand savant and far less naive. But he still has his funny semi-phobias. Last time I saw him, he became incredibly irritated because one of my shoelaces was undone. For some reason, this really upset him."

Sacks came to New York in 1965 aged 31, "briefly, as I thought." Thirty years later he is still there.

He originally left England, after Oxford, because he felt he wanted space.

"*There were already four* Dr. Sackses in England [his parents and two of his three brothers], which I felt was enough. Also I had a sense that I wouldn't be tolerated in England, that medicine was too tight to accommodate an oddity like myself. I felt that in the interstices of the looser society in the States, I could somehow get lost and survive."

He says he doesn't feel at home in the US. "But I don't feel particularly at home anywhere. I suppose this is both a strength and a weakness; it may partly be an example of the Jewish notion of being a perpetual exile."

Although he still feels Jewish, he is not observant. He says he has not believed in God since the age of 10, when he issued him with a challenge.

He planted two rows of radishes and said that if God wanted to prove his existence then he must make one row flourish and the other row wilt. Both rows wilted.

"I'm now unable to imagine anyone up there controlling things. My wonder is transferred to evolution and the miracle of self-creation. I'm very conscious of the ancient past in us. Occasionally, in victims of multiple sclerosis, there may be an odd movement of the palate and muscles in the neck and inner ear. It doesn't make sense until you realize that these are remnants of the gill arches. You're seeing a Jurassic movement, the fish in man, a vestige that is 100 million years old."

Sacks has something of the fish in him. He says he feels most at home in water, swimming two hours a day. "I love the timeless trance-like state of swimming and I find I can think freely in the water."

He also achieves great peace of mind by wandering in the Bronx Botanic Gardens. His studio is a shrine to some extraordinary plants: a stag's horn fern, with impressive leaves like antlers, flourishes behind his desk. "I feel vaguely parental towards my plants," he says.

He adds that he also feels parental towards his patients. "In a sense I think of my patients as children – although I hesitate to say that as it sounds paternalistic."

Sacks has no children, but he is amused and moved by a misprint in the proof copy of his latest book. A footnote refers to his two-year-old "grandson." He picks up a copy, finds the page instantly and points at the place excitedly.

"It's meant to be 'godson' but I was touched by the mistake. I rather like the idea of being a grandfather, so I think I'll quietly leave it as it is."

(The Sunday Telegraph)

Criticize the prime minister? Not on our TV station

GRAPEVINE

GREER FAY CASHMAN

IRREVERENT JOURNALIST and television panelist **Amnon Dankner** was just about to say something unflattering about the prime minister on Channel 1's *Popolitica* when he was silenced in mid-sentence by the program's host **Dan Margalit**, who told him that if he didn't stop, the show would be taken off the air.

To prove he was serious, Margalit offered Dankner his earphones, so he could get the message from the control room. Dankner declined the offer but complied with the request, though not before asking whether it was now forbidden to criticize **Yitzhak Rabin**.

FORMER INTERIOR minister **Aryeh Deri** certainly has style. The strain of his trial might have humbled a lesser man, but Deri, who remains the darling of the media, carries on, with almost daily media interviews, his Knesset work and behind-the-scenes meetings with influential politicians.

Last Friday, he temporarily became the interviewer instead of the interviewee, when he was **Amnon Levy**'s guest on ETV's *Supplement of Supplements*. Deri's intimate knowledge of politics gave him a certain edge over his host – especially when interviewing personalities such as former defense minister **Moshe Arens**.

JERUSALEM POST staffers took time out this week to honor veteran journalists **Moshe Kohn** and **Ernie Meyer**, in celebration of their 70-something birthdays. Between them, the two wordsmiths have also worked at *The Post* for 70-something years. Also present were former editor-in-chief N. **David Gross**, former staffers **Aryeh Rubinstein** and **David Strassler**, and present and past contributors such as **Shmuel Katz**, **Nissim Rejwan**, **Walter Zanger** and **Danny Ben-Ya'akov**.

WHEN KIRYAT Ono lawyer **Avigdor Warsha** published his own version of *J'Accuse* by placing a large newspaper advertisement that charged Deputy Foreign Minister **Yossi Beilin** with abandoning Jewish and Zionist values, the Israel Bar Association made no comment.

But B'nai B'rith International, of which Warsha is a vice-president, quickly dissociated itself from his criticism of Beilin and published an apology. B'nai B'rith president **Tommy P. Baer** considered Warsha's charges an "affront to Beilin's character and leadership."

FEW PEOPLE would pass up a free round-trip ticket to New York plus a week's stay in the Hilton. But shipping, property development and banking magnate **Yuli Ofer** didn't think twice when he won the trip last weekend at the gala Variety benefit dinner at the Tel Aviv Hilton. He redonated the prize for raffle, as he did with the other prizes he won at the event.

Organizers were using every means at their disposal to raise extra funds, including selling off roses at NIS 50 each. Ofer bought 100, and his wife **Ruth** distributed them among the guests.

French Ambassador **Pierre Brochand** demonstrated that he could be equally generous. He donated an unscheduled prize of two crates of top-quality French wine, which he then won back in the raffle. After redonating his prize, Brochand did better for himself and won a Fiat Uno. He returned that one as well.

THE LOCAL Asian Women's Association has been revived. Last Friday, 50 Asian diplomats and wives of Asian diplomats, each carrying a sample of her country's national cuisine, gathered at the home of Philippines Ambassador **Rosalinda de Perio Santos**.

The festive occasion notwithstanding, the guests acknowledged the tragic loss of life in the recent earthquake in Japan by paying silent tribute to those who perished.

AUSTRALIAN Ambassador **Peter Rodgers**, speaking at the dedication of the Dora Feiglin Musical Therapy Center at the Emunah Neveh Michael Children's Village in Pardess Hanna, termed "the terrible outrageous events" at Beit Lid on Sunday as "the destruction of hope and the destruction of young lives."

What Emunah is doing at Neveh Michael, said Rodgers, "is building hope and building young lives."

The cottage-style village, with its surrogate-family atmosphere, is home to some 250 immigrant youngsters aged four to 19. The dedication was attended by four generations of relatives and friends of the late Australian Emunah activist Dora Feiglin.

FURTHER AFIELD, America's first lady, **Hillary Rodham Clinton**, also referred to the Beit Lid massacre while speaking in Palm Beach, Florida, at the inaugural dinner of the Israel Bonds 1995 Prime Minister's Club campaign. She called on "all those who have chosen the path of peace to condemn this act."

Recalling her recent visit to Israel, Clinton told more than 700 Israel Bonds leaders that she was moved by the country's "spirit of confidence and optimism about the future." That same spirit of confidence was demonstrated by her audience, which purchased in excess of $165 million of bonds.

Violinist Henry Meyer: Gave master classes in Jerusalem and performed at the Yad Vashem ceremony commemorating the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. (Roni Ne'eman)

INTERNATIONALLY renowned violinist and teacher Prof. **Henry Meyer**, 72, has been teaching master classes at the Mishkenot Sha'ananim Music Center. Meyer, who last week came to Israel as the guest of Yad Vashem, is an Auschwitz survivor.

Born in Germany, Meyer played in various orchestras until 1943, when he was transferred from a Dresden labor camp to the orchestra at Auschwitz. Liberated in 1945 by soldiers attached to the American Third Army, he settled in the US, and now lives in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Meyer was brought to Israel to play at this week's ceremony commemorating the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz.

THOUGH FLATTERED, **Vered Berman** was frankly surprised that her television documentary, *Wanda's List*, was submitted by Channel 1 for consideration for the prestigious Peabody Awards in Atlanta, Georgia. It was one of several high-quality documentaries selected by Channel 1 as being good enough to compete – and it won.

The film is about 250 Jewish children from Poland whose lives were saved during the Holocaust by a woman called Wanda. In a year to be filled with 50th anniversary Holocaust commemorations, honoring a documentary about Jewish survival seems entirely fitting.

ONLY A few years back, it was highly unlikely that **Arthur Goldreich** and a South African ambassador would have sat in the same room, let alone talk to each other. Goldreich, who was an activist with **Nelson Mandela** in the struggle for black equality, fled to Israel after organizing an anti-government uprising.

Both he and South African ambassador **Malcolm Ferguson** were among the South Africans attending the premiere screening at Beth Hatefutsoth of **Judy Herbstein**'s film *Changing Colors*.

The granddaughter of Supreme Court Justice Joseph Herbstein, who left South Africa because he was opposed to apartheid, Judy Herbstein returned after a long absence to make a documentary of the new South Africa from the perspective of the Jewish community.

The production is a joint venture of the Israel Film Service and Israel Television.

E
EYE
ON THE
MEDIA
DAVID BAR-ILLAN

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Teddy Kollek (Davar, August 21, 1992)

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THE JERUSALEM
POST

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Banks' greed led to crash

COMMENT

NEIL COHEN

"SOME of the smaller banks," I wrote in December 1992, "appear to have been lending aggressively, some would say recklessly, to finance share purchases ... Some of the larger ones may have been following in their footsteps.

"The Bank of Israel, which is currently carrying out a routine check, says it is not worried by the phenomenon. It should be ... It is a disaster waiting to happen."

At the time, the main stock market indices stood at around 190. They have since been up to 250, powered by a ton of easy credit, and are now mired under 160, as my prediction unfortunately proved accurate. We have seen suicides and impoverishment – and there will likely be more.

This week, as more stock manipulation was uncovered, the supervisor of banks revealed how much the banks have lent (NIS 3.2 billion at its peak) to buy stocks. He does not have fully up-to-date figures for the amount of credit still outstanding. It is likely that there is still enough to cause more waves of forced selling, which will drive the market still lower.

What is really astonishing, though, is that it is basically business as usual at the banks and the regulatory authorities. Their greed, recklessness, and negligence are responsible for the market crash far more than the governor of the Bank of Israel's monetary laxity or the capital gains tax.

In any normal country, where bank boards or shareholders function with any degree of independence, heads would have rolled.

Trade gap jumps 24% last year

Exports up 11%, imports up 16%

JOSE ROSENFELD

THE trade gap soared 23.8 percent last year to $7.9 billion, as exports jumped 11.16% and imports shot up 15.76%, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported yesterday.

Although 83.5% of the deficit derived from trade with the European Union (EU) and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) countries, only 35.3% of Israel's exports ended up in those countries.

The trade deficit with the EU and EFTA, excluding diamonds, grew $1.34b., out of a total deficit rise of $1.5b. The gap widened to $1.8b. when diamonds were included.

The trade gap with the US, excluding diamonds, expanded $340 million to $867m. However, with the inclusion of diamonds, the deficit was turned into a $1b. surplus. About half of the country's diamond exports, or $2b., ended up in the US.

The trade gap with Asia narrowed by $73m. to $721m., while the surplus with the former East Bloc countries shrank by $68m. to $195m. Israel registered a trade surplus with Japan, including diamonds, of $20m., compared with a deficit of $280m. in 1993.

About a fourth of the $1.2b. increase in exports last year derived from trade with Asia. Exports to Japan, Thailand, and India rose $50m.-$80m. Exports to Singapore, the Philippines, and Hong Kong increased $20m.-$30m. By contrast, exports to China and South Korea remained unchanged.

Out of the $240m. increase in exports to the EU, exports to Italy, Holland, Germany, Belgium, and Spain rose $35m.-$60m. By contrast, exports to France, Portugal, Greece, and Denmark dropped.

Exports to the US rose by $270m.

More than half of the $2.7b. increase in imports came from the EU. The US contributed $600m., and Asia $200m.

Panel: IFTRIC will now insure foreign investments

EVELYN GORDON

ISRAELI companies will now be able to obtain government insurance for investments overseas, the Knesset Finance Committee decided yesterday.

The insurance will be available through the Israel Foreign Trade Risk Insurance Company (IFTRIC). Until now, IFTRIC has only insured exports.

The insurance will only cover political risks, however, such as nationalization, confiscation, war, revolution, or the passage of new laws which would prevent the company's business activity.

Finance Minister Avraham Shohat, who requested the committee's permission for IFTRIC's new venture, explained that the norms of international trade increasingly require would-be exporters to invest in the destination country – for instance, by buying part of a company to market their products.

Many of the most promising markets, however, are in countries where the political risks are high, and where Israeli firms have little experience. These include the countries of the former Soviet Union and eastern Europe.

The IFTRIC insurance is meant to make Israeli exporters more comfortable about investing in such countries.

The main criteria for obtaining the insurance will be the potential benefit of the investment to Israel and its contribution to the investing company's business development.

The insurance will cover up to 90% of the value of the investment, for a period of no more than six years. However, it can be renewed if necessary.

The premium will be determined by extent of the coverage and the estimated risk of the destination country. However, the maximum premium will be 2% of the investment.

IFTRIC will be allowed to insure up to $200 million worth of investments. It has not received additional government guarantees to cover the new program, but if necessary, it can take advantage of $200m. in existing government guarantees to cover its losses.

These guarantees were originally earmarked to cover its $1.6 billion export insurance program.

Unlinked shekel loans fall

JOSE ROSENFELD

PUBLIC borrowing of unlinked shekels fell last month for the first time in 1994, reflecting the impact of the central bank's significant interest rate hikes at the end of the year.

The Bank of Israel announced yesterday that unlinked shekel loans dropped 2 percent in December to NIS 54.1 billion from NIS 55.2b. in November. The central bank interpreted this as a sign that its tight monetary policy is having an impact and will ultimately help curb inflation.

Last year, unlinked shekel credit shot up 21.5%, significantly more than the 14.5% rise in consumer prices.

Average interest rates on credit to the public jumped to 22.48% from 20.5% in November, mostly as a result of the 1.5 percentage point interest rate hike by the central bank at the beginning of December.

The interest commercial banks charged on overdrafts shot up to an average annual rate of 25.25%, from 23.09% in November. Fixed-term interest rates on credit increased to 20.31% from 18.47%.

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South African Economic Statistics

			Prices 25.1.95	Prices 18.1.95	%Change
Exchange rates:	Commercial Rand/$	:	3.532	3.539	0.20%
(buy)	Financial Rand/$	:	4.145	4.175	0.72%
	Commercial Rand/£	:	5.637	5.511	-2.29%
Interest rates:	Money Market (BAs)	:	12.70%	12.70%	0.00%
(Ry)*	Escom 2008	:	15.81%	15.81%	0.00%
	Escom 2020	:	16.84%	16.84%	0.00%
	RSA 150	:	15.46%	15.47%	-0.06%
	UAL Max Income	:	12.95%	12.52%	3.43%
Prices: UTs:	OM Investors	:	R 40.8930	42.3299	-3.93%
(buy)	Escom 168	:	69.56187	69.59206	-0.04%
	Guardbank	:	34.2851	35.4912	-3.40%
	UAL Gilt	:	11.732	11.7281	0.03%
	UAL Max Income	:	9.8299	9.8153	0.15%
Shares:	De Beers	:	88.50	93.00	-4.84%
(close)	Vaal Reef	:	338.00	333.00	1.50%
	Anglo American	:	202.00	212.00	-4.72%
	Barlows	:	32.00	34.50	-7.25%
	SA Brews	:	91.00	94.75	-3.96%
	Sasol	:	30.00	30.50	-1.64%
	Tiger Oats	:	45.50	50.00	-9.00%
	Iscor	:	4.25	4.42	-3.85%
	JSE Actuaries Overall	:	5,314	5,515	-3.64%

*RY – running yield.

Comments: There were renewed fears about hikes in the interest rates, both in SA and in the US. This, together with the Mexican debacle and the earthquake in Japan, are all having an effect on the markets. It is expected that the institutions would start moving their funds from equities into gilts and cash. Bonds gained 10 points, following this perceived shift. Manufacturing production was increasing and there was optimism; it was expected that the GDP figures could be as high as between 3% and 4% for the year.

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'Israeli holdings beginning to suffer from Mexican stigma'

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

INVESTORS might not think of their Israeli holdings as risky investments, but they have recently started to suffer from a similar sort of stigma that is attached to Mexican holdings, according to Rodolfo Bogni, head of Swiss Bank Corporation's (SBC) London branch.

According to Bogni, who arrived in Israel this week to develop the bank's activities in Israel, investors have lost confidence in all emerging markets because of Mexico's financial crisis.

"I think the situation in Mexico has had a major effect on the psyche of investors as a whole, not because everybody was invested in Mexico or emerging markets but because you have a number of investors who feel very depressed."

"The year started on the wrong psychological foot. There will be a recovery in financial terms and in psychological terms as well. But the psychological recovery will take more time since there aren't many exciting stories, except the pattern of growth in Asia," he added.

Nevertheless, Mexico's financial crisis has not deterred SBC from attempting to develop its business in Israel. SBC is considered one of the world's strongest financial institutions, rated the maximum triple A by rating agency Standard & Poors. With assets of about $140 billion, SBC is one of the world's largest banks.

Swiss Bank plans to strengthen its business in Israel in partnership with Clal Issuing, the brokerage arm of the Clal group.

"It all started roughly six months ago, when we started talking with Clal Issuing," said Bogini. We will try to do things together with Clal Issuing in every area, where it is in the best interest of our clients. Since the reality of the corporate scheme is quite new to us in Israel, we feel we will rely to an extent on Clal Issuing. Most of the time we will be working closely together with them," Bogni added.

Bogni: Privatization is one of the reasons for SBC to operate here. (Osendryver/Israel Sun)

While SBC does not intend to open an office in Israel, Bogni envisages frequent travel for a number of SBC executives between Israel and Europe.

Emphasizing that SBC is a leader in international privatization, equity and equity-linked offerings, Bogni said the bank has already applied to participate in Bezek's overseas offering.

"Privatization is one of the reasons for SBC to operate in Israel. It is one area in which we have a track record, both on the advisory side and underwriting side," said Bogini.

"But there are other areas which are equally important. Most top Israeli corporations are coming to the stage of development where they are so big that in order to make the next step, they will need eight joint ventures or perhaps acquisitions, to expand and grow.

"We hope we can work with Clal Issuing, using our own corporate finance and skills, particularly in mergers, acquisitions and the advisory area. We have concentrated our expertise on areas like food and beverage, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, media, paper packaging and so on. Many of these industries are very important for Israel."

Bogni refused to reveal the names of potential clients but said SBC is already negotiating with a number of companies.

On the issue of privatization, Bogni claims the pace of privatization in Israel is more or less normal compared with other countries. And as for privatization tips, Bogni emphasizes simplicity and speed as the key, adding that privatization is essential in order to give various industries the ability to have access to international capital.

State of the economy indicator rises by 0.5% last month

JOSE ROSENFELD

THE Bank of Israel's "S," or state of the economy, indicator rose 0.5 percent in December, following a 0.6% drop in the previous month.

According to the central bank, economic growth slowed in the last third of 1994, as it moved in fits and starts, reflecting the volatility of retail trade and imports.

Last year, the index rose 7.2%, compared with 7.7% in 1993.

Retail sales, a good consumption indicator, increased 0.4% last month, after rising 1.4% in the previous month. In 1994, the retail trade index jumped 9.7%.

Imports fell 1.6%, bringing them slightly below October's levels. The annual import index soared 14.7%.

The number of jobs in the business sector fell 0.5% in November, and industrial production remained unchanged.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Dovrat-Shrem responds to arrests: Dovrat-Shrem has released a statement concerning the investigation of two of its senior managers. "To the best of our knowledge, DS Investments' management has not made any illegal use of its clients' funds or its provident funds," the statement said, "and in the arrest warrant presented by the Securities Authority, there were no allegations against these employers as such."

Decision on Shekem dispute postponed: The Tel Aviv Labor Court has decided to postpone its decision on the dispute between Shekem workers and management until Monday. Although it will not reopen the company's Holon facility, Shekem will continue to pay workers' wages as promised.

Sanctions continue at Zim: Zim workers continued their sanctions yesterday, cutting off computer services and declining to receive the public. The workers are demanding a pay rise, maintaining they should share in the company's profitability.

Ram, Accord win IEC contracts: Ram Engineering and Accord Engineering have been awarded contracts, worth NIS 20m., by the Israel Electric Corporation.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (27.1.95)

Currency (deposit for:)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar ($250,000)	5.625	6.000	6.750
Pound sterling (£100,000)	5.125	5.600	6.250
German mark (DM 200,000)	4.000	4.250	4.750
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	2.875	3.125	3.500
Yen (10 million yen)	0.625	0.625	0.875

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (26.1.95)

	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS		BANKNOTES		
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	Rep. Rates**
Currency basket	3.3480	3.3950	—	—	3.3777
U.S. dollar	2.9791	3.0211	2.93	3.07	3.0050
German mark	1.9610	1.9896	1.93	2.02	1.9802
Pound sterling	4.7418	4.8087	4.65	4.87	4.7840
French franc	0.5667	0.5747	0.55	0.58	0.5724
Japanese yen (100)	2.9941	3.0363	2.94	3.09	3.0233
Dutch florin	1.7513	1.7760	1.72	1.80	1.7663
Swiss franc	2.3328	2.3658	2.29	2.40	2.3534
Swedish krona	0.3982	0.4038	0.39	0.41	0.4008
Norwegian krone	0.4483	0.4546	0.44	0.46	0.4522
Danish krone	0.4981	0.5051	0.49	0.52	0.5020
Finnish mark	0.6272	0.6360	0.62	0.65	0.6330
Canadian dollar	2.1049	2.1346	2.07	2.17	2.1241
Australian dollar	2.2793	2.3114	2.21	2.34	2.2987
S. African rand	0.8418	0.8537	0.75	0.86	0.8494
Belgian franc (10)	0.9527	0.9661	0.94	0.98	0.9602
Austrian schilling (10)	2.7899	2.8293	2.74	2.88	2.8147
Italian lira (1000)	1.8619	1.8882	1.82	1.93	1.8743
Jordanian dinar	—	—	4.16	4.42	4.2070
Egyptian pound	—	—	0.85	0.90	0.9437
ECU	3.7120	3.7643	—	—	3.7447
Irish punt	4.6894	4.7555	4.58	4.86	4.7428
Spanish peseta (100)	2.2579	2.2898	2.20	2.35	2.2757

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

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WORLD MARKET REPORTS

- **International bond markets** had a quiet week as investors waited for the FOMC meeting next week. We expect a minimum of 50bps US interest rate rise at the end of the month. Sterling bonds, although a further UK interest rate rise is expected, have partly factored this into the price, and yields approaching 9% look attractive
- **The UK FT-SE 100 Index**, having broken 3000 at the end of last week to reach 2954, is attempting a rally back to the 3000-3020 level. Sentiment in the market has been assisted by Glaxo (GLXO.L) bidding £9.4bn for Wellcome (WCM.L), and persistent rumours regarding possible take-overs of SG Warburg (WSG.L) and TSB Bank (TSB.L). Today saw an announcement that Cable and Wireless (CW.L) and the German group Veba AG (VEBG.F) would form a strategic alliance to develop their joint telecom interests in the EC. The j.v. company, called Vebacom, will be 55%-owned by Veba and 45% by C&W. Additionally, Veba AG is taking a 10.5% stake in C&W, which is up sharply on the announcement.
- **Hong Kong** is expected to stage a technical recovery ahead of the Chinese New Year, and better-than-expected Goverment land auction results assisted local sentiment. Hong Kong is at the lower end of its historic PER range of 10x to 16x. The short-term trading range has 7370 as top-end resistance. A drift towards 7000 seems possible, with an eventual test of 6800 at some stage. In Singapore, the SSI, having broken down through 2100, is finding it difficult to rally. Market sentiment has been hit by a disappointing land auction, and by weakness in the residential housing market.
- **South African equities** extended their recent weakness amid a lack of direction from world markets and an uncertain gold price. Since the start of 1995, the Industrials and Gold indices have fallen by 9.2% and 25% respectively. Negative local press comment on suggestions from Trade and Industry Minister Trevor Manuel that pyramid holding companies may be abolished hurt sentiment. Buyers were however said to be waiting in the sidelines for the quality gold stocks, such as Vaal Reefs (VAAL.J) and Kloof (KLOF.J). Selected metals shares were also attracting attention with SAMANCOR (SMG.J) cited as offering good value at current levels.
- **Gold Bullion** has traded in a narrow US$380 - 384/oz range over the past week. The upside is considered limited, with a firmer dollar and a possible US rate rise next week. If support at $380/oz fails, $375 376/oz would be the downside target.

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Key Representative Rates

		Change
US dollar	... NIS 3.0050	+ 0.30%
Sterling	...... NIS 4.7840	- 0.15%
Mark	.... NIS 1.9802	- 0.39%

INT'L STOCK MARKETS

New York market indexes

	Last	Change
DJ Industrials	3998.4	-6.05
DJ Transport	1510.92	-12.48
DJ Utils	190.15	+0
DJ Comp	1303.52	-4.28
NYSE Indust	320.66	+0.31
NYSE Transport	229.86	-1.47
NYSE Comp	254.73	+0.32
S&P 100	433.47	+0.6
S&P Spot Index	467.94	+0.5
AMEX Comp	438.01	-0.51

NYSE stocks

	Unchanged	Advances	Declines
Share movements	+830	1052	1028

Volume up (in 1000's) 134982
Volume down (in 1000's) 120053

Other stock market indexes

	Last	Change
FTSE 100	3007.3	+25.1
Tokyo Nikkei average	18070.8	-88.8
Singapore all-share index	492.86	+8.94
Hong Kong Hang Seng index	7310.53	+69.81
Israel index	118.79	-0.9

Israeli stocks in NY

	Last	Change
NYSE / AMEX		
Am Is Pap	45.25	0
Ampal A	5.625	+0
Aryt	1.3125	0
BioTechnology	2.375	-0.0625
Carmel Cont	7.25	0
Frutarom (electrochem)	3.3125	0
Elscint	1.875	+0
Etz Lavud	6.875	+0.125
Etz Lavud A	5.875	+0
Laser T.	5.25	+0
PEC	25.125	-0.25
Tadiran	21.5	+0.25
NASDAQ / over-the-counter		
Aladdin	8.125	+0.375
4TH. Dimension	4.25	+0.0625
Ampal 6.5	15.75	-1.75
BVR	3.5	-0.125
Converse	13.125	+0
Data (Defense)	5.25	+0.125
ECI	14	-0.25
Edusoft	1.6875	+0
Edu-Soft	7	-0.25
Electric Fuel	6.125	+0.125
EFI	32.6875	-0.5625
Elbit	17.75	-0.25
Elron	8.875	-0.125
Eshed Robotec	0.5625	+0
Fibronix	0.9375	0
M. Systems	3.5	0
Gilat	12.75	+0.0625
ISG	1.375	+0
Geotek	7.875	+0.25
Health Tech	1.5	+0
Idan	0.28125	+0
IIS	3.875	+0.125
Indigo	20.375	-0.875
Interpharm	17	0
Isramco	1.375	+0.0625
First Isr Fund	9.375	-0.125
Isek	0.40625	-0.03125
Lannet	22	+0.25
Lanoptics	6.25	+0.25
Magal	3.25	+0
Nudis-Al	1.875	0
Mercury	12.5	-0.5
Magic	4.875	0
Orbotech	8.875	+0.1875
Oshap Tech	1.75	-0.125
Rada	3.375	-0.375
Robomatics	0.75	0
Sapiens	1.0625	+0
Scitex	16.875	-0.25
Silicom	3.75	0
T.A.T. Technol	2.625	+0.1875
Taro Vit	8.5	+0.25
Teledata	5.5	+0
Telegraph	2.625	-0.25
Tower Semicond	13.75	-0.25
Teva	23.625	+0.0625
TVG	1.0625	0

(All listings are closing quotes)

Commstock Trading Ltd. (Data 26-JAN-95)

INT'L MONEY MARKETS

Dollar crossrates (US)

		Last	Change
Pound:	spot	1.5905	-0.0022
	Mar.future (CME)	1.5908	-0.0008
D-mark:	spot	1.517	+0.0006
	Mar.future (CME)	0.6601	+0.0001
S-franc:	spot	1.276	+0.0003
	Mar.future (CME)	0.7859	+0.0001
Yen:	spot	99.37	-0.11
	Mar.future (CME)	0.010111	+1.7e-005
CanDlr:	spot	1.4137	+0.0027
	Mar.future (CME)	0.7058	+0.0001
AusDlr:	spot	0.7655	+0.0006
	Mar.future (CME)	0.764	+0.001
F-franc:	spot	5.255	+0.0102
It Lira:	spot	1602.5	+8
Nis:	spot	1.7001	-0.0011
AutShlg:	spot	10.685	-0.005
Rand:	spot	3.5375	+0.005
ECU:	spot	1.2463	-0.0012
Bonds	future	100.02	+0.12
S and P	future	470	+0.1

Libor rates

		Last	Change
Dollar	3 months	6.3125	0
Dollar	6 months	6.75	0
Dollar	12 months	7.4375	0
Sterling	3 months	6.8125	0
Sterling	6 months	7.1875	0
Sterling	12 months	7.9375	0
S-franc	3 months	4	0
S-franc	6 months	4.25	0
S-franc	12 months	4.625	0
D mark	3 months	5	-0.0312
D-mark	6 months	5.25	0
D-mark	12 months	5.75	0
Yen	3 months	2.3125	0
Yen	6 months	2.3125	0
Yen	12 months	2.5	0

(Spot market listings are from approximately 22:30 Israel time. All others are closing quotes.)

Commstock Trading Ltd. (Data 26-JAN-95)

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INT'L COMMODITIES AND METALS

US commodities

	Last	Change
Cocoa (Mar) (CEC)	1378	-0
Coffee (Mar) (CEC)	187	+1.8
Sugar no 11 (Mar) (CEC)	14.48	-0.07
Wheat (Mar) (CBOT)	365.75	-8.25
Orange juice (Jan)(CEC)		-
Crude oil light (Mar)(CEC)	18.24	-0.15

London commodities

	Last	Change
Cocoa (Mar) (LCE)	1000	+6
Coffee (Jan) (LCE)	2820	+27
Brent crude oil (Mar)(IPE)	1667	-13

Spot market metals (US)

		Last	Change
Gold:	spot	381.25	+0.4
Silver:	spot	4.8	+0.01

New York metal futures

	Last	Change
Gold (Feb)	381.7	+0.8
Silver (Mar)	4.795	+0.005
Platinum (Jan.)	419.1	+1.8
Palladium (Mar.)	161.05	+0.85
High-grade copper (Mar)	1.3995	+0.016

London metal fixes

	Last	Change
Gold AM fix	380.5	-1.2
Gold PM fix	381.35	-0.1
Silver fix	478	-3.3
Platinum PM fix	419	+0.6

Month in parentheses signals contract exp. date

(Spot market listings are from aproximately 22:30 Israel time. All others are closing quotes.)

Commstock Trading Ltd. (Data 26-JAN-95)

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Two-Sided, Maof fall after early gains

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

ANDRE LUMBROSO

Two-Sided Index	Maof index	Karam index
154.83 -0.73%	154.19 -1.45%	130.31 +0.08%

THE Maof arbitragers apparently failed yesterday in their efforts to push the Maof index above the 160 line.

They did try, and the first two hours of trading were marked by price rises, although not strong enough to reach the *desired level.* At about 2 p.m., these arbitragers seemed to lose heart, sensing that they could not make it, at which point prices started declining.

By the end of trading, the Two-Sided was down 0.7% and the Maof down 1.5%. Only the Karam index, which had been influenced by the general optimism *early in the day, managed to post* a very symbolic rise. Turnover was slightly higher than what we had become accustomed to in recent weeks, at NIS 81.4 million.

The expiry of Maof options had been in fact the only sign of life in an otherwise dead market. The expectation is that next Sunday, with two months until the next expiry date of Maof options, it will be business as usual, and this might mean declines. In fact, quite a few traders decided to *postpone their buying until next* week, not wanting to play a game manipulated by the Maof Options artists. Their expectation is that the market will decline next week. Wait and see.

The issue of high interest rates and low exchange rate stays at the forefront of the economic scene. There are increasing pressures on the government and the Bank of Israel *to devalue the shekel and* lower interest rates. So far, the central bank has shut its ears to those pressures, and it seems to be looking only at monetary aggregates. These so far are not declining, as attests the fact that the level of economic activity continued to rise during December.

Meanwhile, with or without the Maof options, the market has been *sliding steadily and many* traders and money managers seem completely despondent as to what is occurring there. There have even been some older ones who miss the good old days of 1983, although it seems a wild exaggeration which makes the past look rosier. The fact is that the Two-Sided index has declined 11% since the beginning of the year, *and is now only* 3.5% above the all time low of July 1994, although it is already below that level in *real* terms.

There were more rises than declines on the Two-Sided, although the declines concentrated on the Maof securities, hence depressing the overall index. Elron Discount Investment was down 2%, Koor down 2.2%, Bezek down 1%, Israel Chemicals down 2.9%, Clal Israel down 2.3%. Clal Industries down 2.5%. One clear exception *was Teva, which rose* 2.5%.

The bond market seems the only game in town. The high yields, the uncertainty on the stock market and the absence of leadership in the economic area makes that market attractive to investors. In fact, that market seems to be receiving the monies which are fleeing from the stock market and the mutual funds. *Index-linked bonds rose* yesterday by 0.12%, with the highest rises taking place in the Gilon series and in those issues with 10 years or more to maturity.

FTSE rises for 3rd straight day

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuter) – The London share market rose for the third straight day, lifting the FTSE 100 above 3,000 as developments on the mergers and acquisitions front boosted individual shares in heavy volume, dealers and strategists said.

The FTSE 100 closed up 25.1 points at 3,007.3, just below its high for the day of 3010.2. The March stock index future was trading at higher levels throughout the day and was up 25 at 3018 shortly after the close of the cash market.

Dealers said fresh corporate deal news, which has driven share *trading for much of the* week, continued to support the better tone in the market.

FRANKFURT - German shares extended bourse session gains in IBIS electronic trading yesterday, drawing strength from a firm German debt market, traders said.

The 30-share DAX index closed the bourse session up 3.85 at 2,030.69 and rose another ten points in after-hours trading.

Traders said the market consolidated today after Wednesday's roller-coaster ride. Bourse trading was underpinned yesterday by firm German Bund futures as well as signs of lower inflation data.

PARIS - *French shares fin*ished with an advance of 1.32 percent on the back of a technical rebound and strength in bonds. But traders were wondering whether the market could sustain that gain, after rising for three sessions. Operators said foreign buyers of blue chip stocks, including Elf Aquitaine, helped lift the whole market. The CAC-40 index closed up 23.82 at 1,826.28.

TOKYO - Tokyo stocks gave up earlier gains and closed lower yesterday as stock indexes were hit by arbitrage-linked selling in the late afternoon, brokers said.

But shares in construction and construction-related companies were strongly supported by *individual investors' buying,* they said.

The Nikkei closed down 88.64 points or 0.49% at 18,070.84 after rising as high as 18,407.40.

Dow drops slightly

WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (Reuter) – Blue-chip stocks ended slightly lower yesterday as investors turned cautious ahead of today's fourth quarter gross domestic product report, which could determine whether the Federal Reserve raises interest rates once again.

The Dow Jones industrial average ended 1.01 points lower at 3,870.44, based on early and unofficial data. In the broader market, advancing issues led declines by a slight margin on active trading of more than 304 million shares on the New York Stock Exchange.

CURRENCY CROSS-RATES

	MARK	STERLING	YEN	SFr	FFr
MARK	—	0.4144/48	65.48/51	0.8410/13	3.4626/31
STERLING	2.4116/26	—	157.84/96	2.0277/01	8.3462/94
YEN	1.5259/84	0.6328/38	—	1.2832/52	5.2815/19
SFr	118.84/94	0.4926/32	77.84/89	—	4.1138/00
FFr	0.2885/89	0.1197/99	18.89/9N	0.2427/31	—

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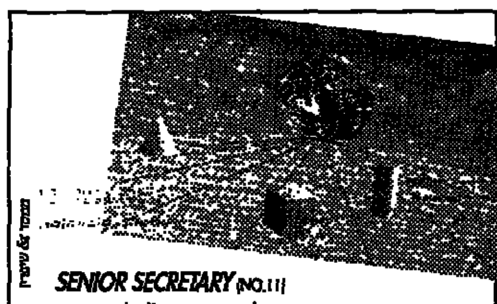

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ASSISTANCE TO U.S. TAXPAYERS

JERUSALEM	
Feb. 7	AACI refresher course
Feb. 8-10	Taxpayer assistance at Laromme Hotel
Feb. 13-14	Taxpayer assistance at U.S. Consulate, 27 Nablus Rd.
HAIFA	
Feb. 16	AACI, 8 Wedgwood St.
TEL AVIV	
Feb. 17, 21-24	U.S. Embassy, 71 Hayarkon St.

For refresher course, please register in AACI.
An IRS representative will see taxpayers on a first come, first served basis.
For further information, please contact:
AACI Jerusalem, between 9 a.m. -12 p.m. • Tel. 02-619252;
U.S. Consulate General, Tel. 02-276444;
Laromme Hotel, Tel. 02-756666
U.S. Embassy, Tel Aviv, Tel. 03-5170010;
AACI Haifa, Tel. 04-384319
U.S. Consular Agent, Haifa, Tel. 04-670615

Required in Tel Aviv, Quality English Teachers
* for speaking courses in Petah Tikva, Holon, Tel Aviv
* with background in mechanical/electrical engineering
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JERUSALEM

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SALES

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	Shabbat begins	Shabbat ends
Jerusalem	4:32 p.m.	5:47 p.m.
Tel Aviv	4:50 p.m.	5:49 p.m.
Haifa	4:40 p.m.	5:46 p.m.
Beersheba	4:48 p.m.	5:47 p.m.
Eilat	4:52 p.m.	5:53 p.m.

Tora portion: Mishpatim

JERUSALEM

MORESHET YISRAEL - Conservative 4 Agron. Dr. Avraham Feder, Rabbi. Fri. Minha 4:55. Sat. Shaharit 8:30. Minha + shiur 4:10. Daily at 7:00 a.m.

HAR-EL SYNAGOGUE (Progressive) 16 Shmuel Hanagid, Tel. 02-253841. Friday evening 4:30. Concert by olim (Gershwin and Bernstein) 5:30; Kabbalat Shabbat service. Shabbat morning: 9:30. Rabbi Tovia Ben-Chorin.

HEBREW UNION COLLEGE, 13 King David St. Shabbat morning service, 9:30 a.m.

CHRISTIAN

JERUSALEM

REDEEMER CHURCH, Lutheran, Muristan Rd. Old City, Jerusalem. Sunday services: English 9:00 a.m. German 10.30 a.m. Tel. 276111, 281049.

BAPTIST CONGREGATION, 4 Narkis, West Jerusalem. Saturday Bible study 9:00 a.m., worship service 10:30 a.m. Tel. 255942.

ST. PAUL'S (Pentecostal), 32 Shivtei Yisrael. 7:00 p.m. Saturday. Tel. 02-717988.

KING OF KINGS ASSEMBLY, YMCA Auditorium, 26 King David St. Tel. 610017. Sunday, 6 p.m.

PENTECOSTAL WORSHIP SERVICE, **MT. ZION FELLOWSHIP**, 7:30 p.m. Fri., Sat., Sun. Tel. 02-828964.

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IMMANUEL CHURCH (Lutheran), Tel Aviv-Yafo, 15 Rehov Beer Hofman (near 17 Rehov Eilat) Tel. 820654. Saturday service 11 a.m. Service in English every Sunday at 10 a.m.

HAIFA

BEIT ELIAHU (Evangelical Messianic Congregation) Haifa, 43 Meir Street, Tel. 04-523581. Sat. service 11 a.m.

OTHER CENTERS

BAPTIST VILLAGE CONGREGATION, 3 km. north of Petah Tikva, near Yarkon Junction. Sabbath Bible study Saturday 9:45 a.m. Worship hour, 10:45 a.m. Tel. 09-574661.

ARTGUIDE

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JERUSALEM

Museums

OLD YISHUV COURT MUSEUM. *Life in the Jewish Community in the Old City, mid-19th century - World War II.* 6 Or Hahaim, Jewish Quarter, Old City. Sun.-Thur. 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

TEL AVIV

Museums

TEL AVIV MUSEUM OF ART. Conrad *Felixmuller: His Dresden Years*, exploration of the work of a German Expressionist artist♦Keith Haring♦16th-19th Cent. European Art♦Impressionism, Post-Impressionism♦The School of Paris♦The Moshe and Sara Mayer Coll.♦Sculpture♦20th Cent. Modern Masters - Mizne-Blumental Coll.♦Edvard Munch, selected prints♦Israeli Art - A Historic Presentation♦From New Horizons Onward. **HELENA RUBINSTEIN PAVILION FOR CONTEMPORARY ART.** Asim Abu-Shakra♦*The Motif of Cactus in Israeli Art 1910-1990.* Hours: Weekdays 10:00 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue., 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri., Sat., 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Art Education Center, Tel. 6919155.

HAIFA

Museums

THE REUBEN AND EDITH HECHT MUSEUM (Haifa University). Permanent exhibition: *The People of Israel in Eretz Yisrael*♦Phoenicians on the Northern Coast of Israel in the Biblical Period♦Directions 1990-94, Yiftach Brakin, works on paper♦Impressionism and the Jewish School of Paris (works by Modigliani, Monet, Pissaro, Soutine, Struk and others)♦"Purity Broke Out in Israel" - Stone Vessels of the late Second Temple period♦Paintings and graphics of Oswald Adler, painter, portraitist, and graphic and stamp designer. Open Sun., Mon., Wed., Thur. 10-4; Tue. 10-7. Fri. 10-1. Sat. 10-2. ADMISSION FREE.

WHERE TO GO

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WIZO. To visit our projects call Tel Aviv 6923819; Jerusalem 256060; Haifa 388817.

HAIFA

WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA, dial 04-374253.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

Friday, January 27

Jerusalem: Kupat Holim Maccabi, 15 Agrippas, 243469; Balsam, Salah e-Din, *272315; Shuafat,* Shuafat Road, 810108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 282058.
Tel Aviv: Pharmaxi, 41 Yirmeyahu, 544-2050; Bavli, 1 Uziel (cnr Toledano), 604-0552.
Ra'anana-Kfar Sava: Merkaz Golan, 198 Ahuza, Ra'anana, 445762.
Netanya: Hanassi, 36 Weizmann, 822739.
Krayot area: Hayesod, 73 Keren Hayesod, Kiryat Bialik, 704185.
Haifa: *Derech Hayam, 209 Derech* Hayam, 371472.
Herzliya: Clal Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 558472, 558407. Open 9 a.m. to midnight.
Upper Nazareth: Clal Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mall, 570468. Open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Saturday, January 28

Jerusalem: (day) Amona, 9 Leib Yaffe, 731901; (evening) Center Pharm, 20 Yad Harutzim, 731475; (day and evening) Balsam, Salah e-Din, 272315; Shuafat, Shuafat Road, 810108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 282058.
Tel Aviv: Ben-Yehuda, 142 Ben-Yehuda, 522-3535; Habimah, 17 Dizengoff, 528-8465. (evening, till midnight) Superpharm Ramat Aviv, 40 Einstein, Ramat Aviv, 641-3730.
Ra'anana-Kfar Sava: (day) Narkiss, 8 Hativat Golani, Kfar Sava, 918248; (evening) Kupat Holim Maccabi, 49 Hahayil, Ra'anana, 907736.
Netanya: Hasharon Mall, Herzl, 617768.
Krayot area: Super Pharm, Kiryon, *44 Hapalmah,* Kiryat Bialik, 779320.
Haifa: Kiryat Eliezer, 6 Mayerhoff Sq., 511707.
Herzliya: Clal Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. *Sderot Hagalim*), Herzliya Pituah, 558472, 558407. Open 10 a.m. to midnight.
Upper Nazareth: Clal Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mall, 570468. Open *11 a.m. to 11 p.m.*

DUTY HOSPITALS

Friday, January 27

Jerusalem: Shaare Zedek (internal); Hadassah Ein Kerem (surgery, orthopedics, obstetrics, ophthalmology, ENT); Bikur Holim (pediatrics). In case of heart attack, attempted resuscitation, snake bite or scorpion sting, go *immediately to nearest* hospital.
Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center (pediatrics, internal), Ichilov (surgery).
Netanya: Laniado.

Saturday, January 28

Jerusalem: Hadassah Ein Kerem (internal, surgery, orthopedics, ophthalmology, ENT); Bikur Holim (obstetrics); Shaare Zedek (pediatrics). In case of heart attack, attempted resuscitation, snake bite or scorpion sting, go immediately to nearest hospital.
Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center (pediatrics), *Ichilov (internal, surgery).*
Netanya: Laniado.

POLICE 100

FIRE 102

In emergencies dial 102. Otherwise, dial *number* of your local station as given in the front of the phone directory.

FIRST AID 101

Magen David Adom
In emergencies dial 101 (Hebrew) or 911 (English) in most parts of the country. In addition:

Ashdod 851339*	*Karmiel* 988555*
Ashkelon 551332	Kfar Sava* 09-9311111
Bat Yam* 5511111	Kiron 9311111
Beersheba* 274767	K. Shmona* 944334
Beit Shemesh 523133	Nahariya* 912333
Dan Region* 5793333	Netanya* 623333
Eilat* 372333	Petah Tikva* 9311111
Hadera* 09-623333	Rehovot* 451333
Haifa* 512233	Rishon* 9642333
Hatzor* 920333	Safed 920333
Holon* 5511111	Tel Aviv* 5460111
Jerusalem* 523133	Tiberias* 790111

* Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU) service in the area, around the clock.

Medical help for tourists (in English) 177-022-9110.

Eran – Emotional First Aid. Jerusalem 610303, Tel Aviv 5461111 (children/youth 6961113), Haifa 672222, Beersheba 281128, Netanya 625110, Karmiel *9988410, Kfar Sava 974555, Hadera* 346789.

Rape Crisis Center (24 hours), Tel Aviv 5234819, 5449191 (men), Jerusalem 514455, Haifa 660111, Eilat 31977.

Emergency line for women in distress Sunday-Thursday 24 hrs. a day; Friday *8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 09-505720.*

Wizo hotlines for battered women 02-514111, 03-5461133 (also in Russian), 07-376310, 08-550506 (also in Amharic).

The National Poison Control Center at Rambam Hospital, phone 04-529205 for emergency calls 24 hours a day, for *information in case of poisoning.*

Kupat Holim Information Center 177-022-1906, Sunday-Thursday, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Hadassah/Jerusalem Municipal Health Center for Adolescents, 6 Chile St., Kiryat Hayovel, Jlm. Advice by phone 02-433882.

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BAKA, 5, Arab style house, full floor, 2nd floor, $360,000. Even Pina Agency, Tel. 02-793485.

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DAVID'S VILLAGE (MAMILLA), 3.5, beautifully furnished, new appliances, immediate occupancy. Exclusive to SHIRAN with ANGLO-SAXON, ☎ 02-251161.

REHAVIA, quiet, green, special, 3 large, 2nd floor. Keys at IDAN, Tel. 02-723393.

YEFE NOF, 4, quiet, wonderful, scenic view, sun, terrace, $225,000. ANGLO-SAXON *(MALDAN)*, ☎ 02-251161.

SPECIAL: Rehavia, duplex, 4.5, garden, building rights, $695,000. Exclusive Anglo-Saxon (Maldan), ☎ 02-251161.

MORASHA, 4, elevator, balcony, view to Old City, new, $295,000. Anglo-Saxon (Maldan), ☎ 02-251161.

MAMILLA, 3 spacious, wonderful, magnificent, split-level, garden, view. T.A.C. Tel. 02-631764

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ARNONA, 5, very large rooms, elevator, parking, magnificent view with terrace, excellent condition. Exclusive to SHIRAN with NARKISS REAL ESTATE, Tel. 02-249249.

BEIT HAKEREM, 2, southern exposure + *view + storeroom + balconies. Exclusive* to LILY LEWIT, ☎ 02-639339

BAKA, for young/investment, 3, 2nd floor, sunny + balconies. Exclusive to LILY LEWIT, ☎ 02-639339.

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IMMEDIATE: BAYIT V'GAN, Uziel St., 3, + 4 balconies, garden, parking, 1st floor, + *private clinic room on ground floor,* $217,000. ACTIVE MODEL AGENCY, Tel. 02-721087/050-303900.

HATAYASSIM, 4, superb location, good condition, convenient floor. Exclusive to *AMBASSADOR, ☎ 02-618101.*

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FOR QUICK DECIDERS, REHAVIA, 3.5 spacious, central location + balconies. NADLAN PLUS (Maldan), ☎ 02-514112 (Yochi).

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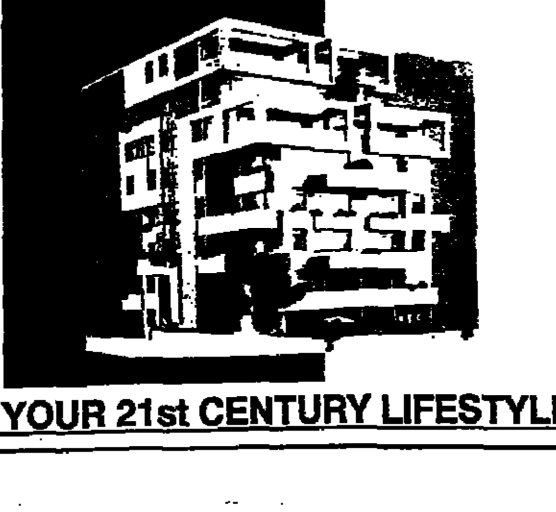

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METAPELET REQUIRED for 2 children, mother tounge English, 4-5 afternoons weekly. Tel. 03-6952040 (NS) 019673

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TEL MOND: 4, invested apartment, roof rights - $130,000.
KADIMA: 125 m., new building, possibility to expand- $130,000.
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- SALE Superb, 6 room roof apartment, incl. room on 120 sq.m. roof, great view, outstanding position. $380,000
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- ★ PENTHOUSE ON BRENNER $265,000.
- ★ COTTAGES IN RAMAT POLEG FROM $299,000.
- ★ *NITZA RENTALS, 3 & 4 rooms FROM $575-*
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"Israel On the Map"
Real Estate
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Just before Pessah, *The Jerusalem Post* will publish special supplements, devoted to real estate and investments, in Israel.
The supplements will be published in the International Editions of **March 20 and 27**, and the daily paper of the festival eve, **April 14.**
For more information and to advertise in these supplement, please contact Udi Bash, 03-6390333, Fax. 03-6390277.
d5-2/d/p

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YOUNG WOMAN for housekeeping, light cooking and care of 5 year old boy, live-in. ☎ 09-584984. 019502

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DWELLINGS

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Maccabi chokes vs. Real Madrid

JOEL GORDIN

MACCABI Tel Aviv never loses twice in one week, according to local basketball folklore.

But if so, last night was the exception which proved the rule. *After falling* Monday night to Hapoel Holon in the national league, Maccabi lost again 76-64 to Real Madrid in Spain. It was the tenth round of the European *Club Championships'* final pool. Maccabi was well in control during the first half, which it led 42-32, a score which must have exceeded coach Muli Kazurin's wildest dreams.

During the half, Radisav Curcic was superb on the rebounds and the offense looked promising. Doron Jamchee, after his bad spell during the past two weeks, scored 13 points, helped by Curcic (11), Guy Goodes (8) and Nadav Henefeld (8). The only fly in the ointment was the lethargic display by Norris Coleman (2).

The second half was a whole new ball game. From the opening buzzer, the Spaniards put themselves back in the picture with an *aggressive defense.* They put pressure on Goodes and on Jamchee which forced the two shooters to take hurried, inaccurate throws at the basket. The flustered Israeli offense *also lost possession* a number of times and Madrid scored from the fastbreaks resulting from the turnovers.

Jamchee only sank four (giving him an overall total of 17). Curcic finished with 15 and Goodes 11. Coleman hit only six and Motti Daniel had five points.

European Club Championships

Group A

	W	L	Pts.
1 Scavolini Pesaro	8	2	18
2. Panathinaikos	7	3	17
3. Real Madrid	7	3	17
4. CSKA Moscow	5	5	15
5. Maccabi Tel Aviv	5	5	15
6. Olimpija Ljubljana	3	7	13
7. PAOK Saloniki	3	6	12
8. Benfica Lisbon	1	8	10

England starts fourth Test powerfully

ADELAIDE (Reuter) – Captain Mike Atherton responded to England's mounting injury crisis with a battling 80 to give his team an impressive start to the fourth Ashes Test against Australia yesterday.

Atherton and veteran pair Graham Gooch (47) and Mike Gatting (50 not out) helped England, which won the toss, to 196 for two at the close of a rain-hit opening day at the Adelaide Oval.

England first innings

G.Gooch c M.Waugh b Fleming	47
M.Atherton c Boon b Fleming	80
M.Gatting not out	50
G.Thorpe not out	18
Extras (w-2 nb-1)	3
Total (for two wickets)	196

Fall of wickets: 1-93 2-175

To bat: J.Crawley, S.Rhodes, C.Lewis, P.DeFreitas, A.Fraser, D.Malcolm, P .Tufnell

Bowling: McDermott 21-9-31-0 (nb-1), Fleming 20-4-50-2 (w-1), Blewett 11-2-37-0, Warne 11-2-39-0, McIntyre 8-2-23-0 (w-1), M.Waugh 4-1-16-0

Australia: M.Taylor (captain), M.Slater, D.Boon, M.Waugh, S.Waugh, G.Blewett, I.Healy, S.Warne, C.McDermott, D.Fleming, P.McIntyre.

TODAY ON CABLE TV

■ CHANNEL 5

7:00 Bodies in motion 7:30 Bodies in motion 8:00 Bodies in motion 9:30 College basketball 11:30 English league soccer highlights: Man. Utd v Blackburn 12:30 *Israeli basketball highlights:* Hapoel Holon v Maccabi TA 13:30 Spanish league soccer 15:00 WWF 16:00 Super Bowl greats 17:00 Basketball magazine 17:30 Mondial 18:00 College basketball: Connecticut v Syracuse 19:30 Israeli soccer magazine 20:00 Bushido 20:30 European basketball *22:00 European soccer magazine* 23:00 English league soccer 00:30 College basketball

■ EUROSPORT

9:30 European skiing magazine 10:30 Olympic magazine *11:30 Leisure sport* 12:00 Australian Open tennis 19:30 Cross-country skiing 20:30 Eurosport news 21:00 International motoring magazine 22:00 Motoring magazine 23:00 Australian Open highlights 00:00 Wrestling 1:00 Boxing 2:00 Eurosport news

■ PRIME SPORTS

6:00 Live Australian Open: men's semifinals and men's doubles finals 9:00 Sail*ing 9:30 Live golf from the Philippines* 11:30 WWF 12:30 Asian soccer show 13:30 NBA behind the scenes 14:00 NBA: Chicago v Orlando 16:00 Australian Open highlights 17:00 Cricket: Australia v England 18:00 Australian Open: men's semifinals and men's doubles finals 1:00 Cricket: Australia v England

SATURDAY JANUARY 28

■ CHANNEL 5

8:30 Table tennis 9:30 Spanish league soccer 11:00 Mondial 11:30 English league soccer 13:30 European soccer magazine 14:00 World rugby 14:30 Handball 15:30 Volleyball 16:30 Basketball: *Connecticut v Syracuse 18:00 Super Bowl* greats 19:30 Show jumping 20:00 Bushido 20:30 NBA: Charlotte v New York 22:00 Israeli soccer: Betar Jerusalem v Hapoel TA 23:00 Mondial

■ EUROSPORT

9:30 Australian Open: women's final highlights 11:30 Snowboard 12:00 Wrestling *13:00 Boxing 14:00 Australian Open:* women's final highlights 16:00 Live cycling 17:30 Golf 19:30 Cross country skiing 20:30 Ski jumping 22:00 Wrestling 23:00 Tennis 00:00 Boxing 2:00 International motoring magazine

■ PRIME SPORTS

6:00 NBA: Chicago v Orlando 7:30 Squash 8:30 Live golf 11:30 Australian Open: women's and mixed doubles finals *16:00 European soccer show* 18:00 Australian Open: women's and mixed doubles finals 22:30 Asian soccer show 23:30 WWF 00:30 World of rugby 1:00 Cricket: Australia v England

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FINAL CALL TO ALL HANDICRAFTERS!

The Jerusalem Post Pessah Handicrafts Fair will take place on Tuesday, April 18, at the Metro-West Sports Center in Ra'anana.

If you are a producer of top quality handicrafts and wish to book a stand at the fair, please contact **Beverlee Black,** Director of The Jerusalem Post Funds, **Tel. 02-233986.**

All proceeds from the fair will help Israel's needy children, old folks and new immigrants.

اكبر من الاصل

هكذا من الاصل

Big league coaches deliver the goods

JOE HOFFMAN

SOME 70 baseball enthusiasts know a lot more about the game after spending yesterday at an Israel Association of Baseball coaching clinic.

Major League coaches Jim Lefebvre of the Oakland Athletics, Colorado Rockies' Pat Dobson and Sam Suplizio of the California Angels completed the first day of a three-day training session at Moshav Zofit to teach the fundamentals of America's pastime to an eager group of Israelis of all ages and genders.

Lefebvre, 53, was all over the diamond, leading calisthenics, teaching the *rudiments* of hitting from a batting tee, turning double plays and promoting the ethics of team play.

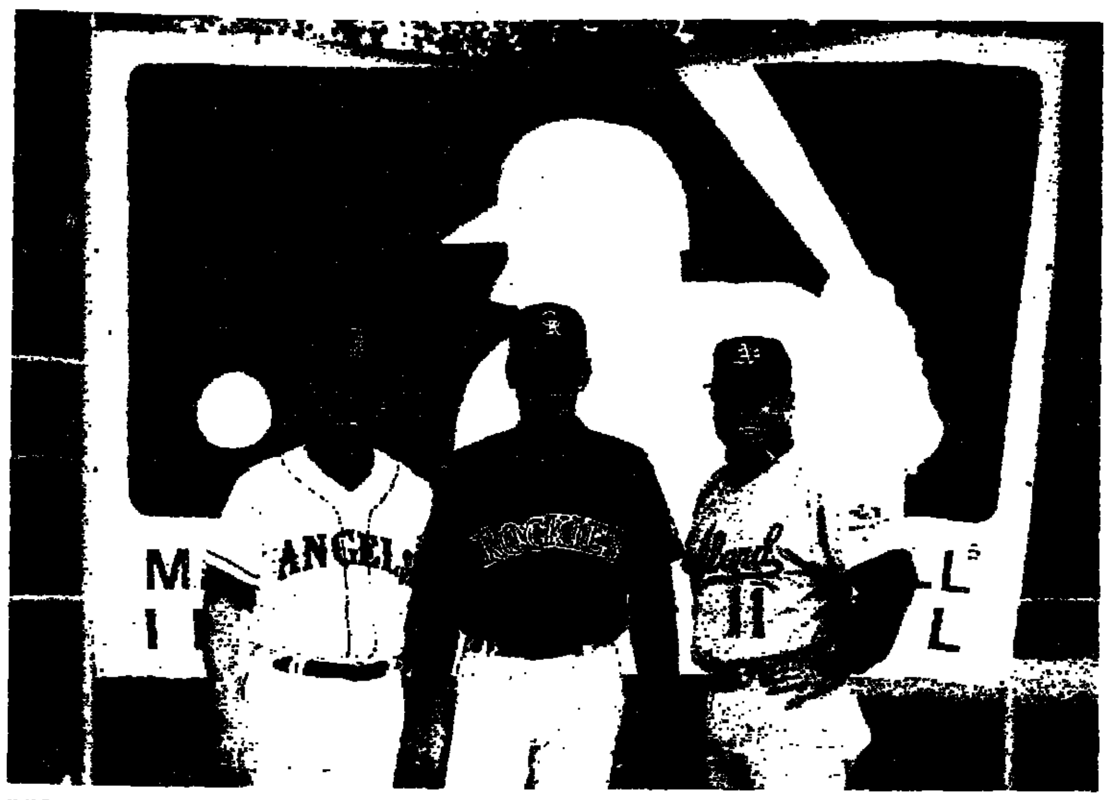
"Winners have bragging rights, and no one's going to brag on my time," said the former Seattle Mariners and Chicago Cubs manager. "The desire to win has got to burn inside you and you must be willing to pay the dues to achieve success.

"For some players, it comes easy," he said, referring to Ken Griffey Jr. *whom* he managed at Seattle. "I simply asked him, 'Is your bat cracked? If not, then get up to the plate and make me look good!'"

Hitting, the eight-year Dodgers veteran continued, is overcoached and undertrained. "According to Major League statistics, 80 percent of line drives fall in for hits, 37% of ground balls get you on base, while only 18% of balls hit in the air fall safely." So much for the big stick.

His swing, which he executes from both sides of the plate, was smooth and almost effortless. But once he got into the mechanics of the right arc, the positions of the hands, elbows, feet and hips, the group gasped at the seeming complexity of it all.

"*Yet, baseball is simple,*" he insists. "There are no secrets."



BIG-LEAGUE INSTRUCTION – Coaches (from left to right) Sam Suplizio, Pat Dobson and Jim Lefebvre are giving a coaching clinic hosted by the Israel Association of Baseball.(Hanoch Guthmann)

While Lefebvre was running his charges through infield drills, Suplizio was taking his students through their paces in the outfield. He was showing the proper way to handle line drives, over-the-shoulder catches, throwing runners out, and deciding where to throw the ball before it's hit *your* way.

Suplizio, 62, is a devotee of the Casey Stengel school of managing. "Casey would take the entire team on a tour of every position on the field, including the on-deck circle, and would tell them what they should be *thinking* at each spot."

Suplizio, a defensive whiz in centerfield, never played big *league* ball. "*In September 1956,* I was playing Triple A ball in Birmingham and was due to be called up to the Yankees to be Mickey Mantle's caddy (backup). He was going for the Triple Crown that year and Stengel wanted to rest him from time to time. Just before I was to join the team, I broke my arm. Four others with whom I was supposed to go up all made *the majors* ... except me."

Suplizio turned his misfortune *into a long career as an instructor.* He is presently completing his 37th year in the coaching ranks.

Dobson, 53, pitched in both leagues, turning in a memorable year in 1971 with a 20-8 mark for the world champion Baltimore Orioles.

Dobson explained the importance of keeping the pitching mo*tion consistent.* "*Otherwise you* telegraph what kind of ball you're about to throw. Whether it's going to be a fast ball, curve or sinker, the windup and stretch have to be identical."

The righthander, who pitched in the majors for 11 years, also added important pointers on pitchers' fielding, especially covering first on ground balls to the *first baseman and handling* the bunt.

Dobson is now an advance scout for the Rockies. He watches teams who are scheduled to play Colorado and wires back invaluable tips on how pitchers and batters react in certain situations.

And what about the strike? No one wanted to speak on the record because coaches are in a no-win situation. If they stick with the players, they risk being fired by the management. If they side with the bosses, they are seen as turncoats. It's a sticky business.

The clinic continues today and tomorrow. For further information, telephone 09-981191.

WE SHOULD LISTEN TO THE PRESIDENT

"We Must Have a Temporary
HALT
It Can't Go On This Way

Mayors and Local Council Heads announce a memorial meeting
on the Seventh Day after the Bombing at the Beit Lid Junction.
The meeting will take place at the site of the bombing,
Saturday night, January 28, 1995 at 8:30 p.m.
Chief Rabbi Israel Lau will address the gathering

Hasson Akran - (acting) Daliat al-Carmel
Ami Argov - Givat Ada
Shlomo Bakshi - Yehud
Zvi Bar - Ramat Gan
Ze'ev Baum - Kiryat Gat
Ezra Binyamini - Hod Hasharon
Dror Birnbaum - Kiryat Ono
Marsha Caspi - Savyon
Yosef Castel - Neve Monosson
Giora Cohen - Kinneret
Ephraim Deri - Kfar Yona
Ya'acov Edri - Or Akiva
Yossi Goldberg - Afula
Moshe Hanya - Tsfat
Ephraim Hiram - Ramat Hasharon
Moshe Irenstein - Bnei Brak
Beni Kashriel - Ma'ale Adumim
Motti Kirmayer - Binyamina
David Koler - Kokhav Ya'ir
Nehemia Lahav - Hadera
Eli Landau - Herzliya
Yoel Lavi - Ramle
Giora Lev - Petah Tikva
Ezra Levi - Kadima
Menashe Moshe - Emek Lod Regional Council
Yossi Mizrahi - Yesud Hama'ala
Zadok Nawi - Afula
Yirmi Olmert - Givat Shmuel
Zvi Poleg - Netanya
Azran Prosper - Kiryat Shmona
Yitzhak Rager - Beersheba
David Ram - Kiryat Ata
Shlomo Razabi - Tel Mond
Yehoshua Sagi - Bat Yam
Nissan Slomiansky - Elkana
Yosef Shabo - Ness Ziona
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Arye Tal - Tirat Hacarmel
Danny Vaknin - Beit Shemesh
Yitzhak Wald - Kfar Sava
Nissim Yamini - Elyakim
Yitzhak Yamini - Pardesiya
Yigal Yosef - Rosh Ha'ayin

TRANSPORTATION (FEE CHARGED): ASHDOD: 7 p.m. - Central Bus Station. **HADERA:** 8 p.m. - Central Bus Station. **HAIFA:** 7 p.m. - Neve Sha'anan, R. Hatichon cor. Zion. Ahuza - Horev Center, near B'nai B'rith. Hadar - R. Hehalutz near Ron Cinema. Kiryat Motzkin: Sd. Moshe Goshen, Kikar Hagiborim. Kiryat Shmuel, 14 R. Mohilever, Kiryat Ata: near Kupat Holim, R. Pinsker. **JERUSALEM:** 6:45-7:45 p.m. Binyenei Ha'uma. **KFAR SAVA:** 7:30 p.m. Aharoni Center. **PETAH TIKVA:** 7:30 p.m. near Municipality. **RISHON LEZION:** 7 p.m. Central Bus Station. **REHOVOT:** 7 p.m. Herzl cor. Ya'acov. **RA'ANANA:** 8 p.m. Rh. Ahuza, *Yad Lebanim.* ***HERZLIYA:** 8 p.m. soccer stadium (after the game)*, Lev Ha'ir. **TEL AVIV:** 7:30 p.m. Mann Auditorium. **BAT YAM:** 7:30 p.m. Mazeba. **HOLON:** 7:30 p.m. near Armon Cinema. **FREE TRANSPORTATION: RAMAT GAN:** 7 p.m. leaving from three points * R. Bialik, near Municipality * R. Ben Eliezer, opp.Fire Station * 29 R. Benyahu, Ramat Hashikma.

DRESS WARMLY.

For Information: 09-687781, 685381

Sherf quits Hap. TA

JOEL GORDIN

ZVI SHERF last night resigned *as Hapoel Tel Aviv* basketball coach. At a specially convened team meeting, he claimed he had no choice because "he had not been paid for five months."

He will be replaced, at least temporarily, by the deputy coach, Ya'ir Sharon.

The flamboyant, outspoken Sherf was head coach at Maccabi Tel Aviv for a number of years. In 1992-3 he went to Hapoel Jerusalem but left in mid-season, also because of a financial dispute with the club. He went to the Greek team, Aris Saloniki, and steered *that squad to a win in the* European Cup. He then returned to Israel last year and helped guide Hapoel Tel Aviv to be runner-up in the national league. However, his second season at Ussishkin has not been happy.

The debt-ridden club was fined four league points for financial irregularities. The management *managed* to buy back the points but the club is still in a money mess. Two weeks ago Mickey Berkowitz *left* the team, partly because of the money crisis, but also because of tension between himself and Sherf.

This week, on Sunday, Hapoel scored a fine league victory, 97-89, over Maccabi Rishon Lezion, even without the star player Buck Johnson who was *suspended* for one game for unsporting behavior the previous week.

The star was Milton Wagner, with 35 points. However on Tuesday, Wagner and James Terry went on "strike" and refused to appear *in the European cup* match with Poland's Wloclawia. The two also claim they have not been paid and it is not clear when they will return to the team, if ever.

On Sunday, Hapoel has a game with Hapoel Holon. It will be played at *Yad Eliyahu to attract* the most possible spectators in the hope of filling the club's coffers.

Club chairman, Shlomi Gruner said in an interview last night: "There is a real danger that Hapoel will turn into another Betar *Ramat Gan (which has lost every* game)."

Hapoel is currently eighth in the league. In the European Cup, it has no chance of advancing from the final pool.

FA: Cantona will be punished

LONDON (Reuter) – Eric Cantona can expect a *severe punishment for attacking a fan during a* match on Wednesday night, the English Football Association (FA) said yesterday.

Graham Kelly, the FA's chief executive, announcing a formal charge against Cantona of misconduct bringing the game into disrepute, added: "What happened last night was a stain on our game. If any offense is proved, the player concerned is bound to face a severe punishment."

Kelly said that the Manchester United and French international forward would be given 14 days to respond before an FA Commission considers the case.

Cantona, 28, made a flying kungfu-style kick at a fan *moments* after being sent off in the Premier League match at Crystal Palace. He was also seen by *millions watching on television* of punching the same fan in the face.

The FA has not suspended Cantona itself, but has *implied that it expects Manchester United to leave it* out of the team to play Second Division Wrexham in an FA Cup fourth round match at Old Trafford tomorrow.

Kelly said that although the FA had the power to take action against Manchester United, it was unlikely to do so.

Of more serious concern to Cantona perhaps, is the police inquiry into the incident.

The police have interviewed, or will be interviewing shortly, a large number of fans who witnessed the attack.

National League soccer returns

ORI LEWIS

NATIONAL League soccer returns for the second half of the season tomorrow, amid expectations for higher standards of play and a tight race to the finish.

With another 15 rounds to go, the National League sides are *back after a month's rest, during* which the players and club staff have had time to take stock of the first half of the season. The hiatus is in line with the Europeanization of the game here and is an example taken from many of the continent's leagues which also take a break during Christmas and the New Year holidays.

But while festivities and severe weather conditions may not have anything to do with the IFA's decision to give the local league a *rest it does put everybody in* synch with the rest of Europe and will allow the coming season to start *well* before *Israel's* representatives are ready to take the field in next season's European cup competitions.

While most of Europe takes a mid-winter break, the trend is reversed in England and Scotland. The English Premiership in particular is the focus of attention during this time of year, a fact that has not escaped many Israelis, who boarded flights to London to take in a week's exhilarating soccer action.

Israeli coaches and players were no exception, and many of them capitalized on the cheap air *fares to try and gain a little* inspiration from one of the most exciting leagues in the world at a time when an intrepid soccer aficionado can watch as many as three live matches in one day.

Now that they have all come back to earth, there is the small matter of getting on with the league.

Most interesting among tomorrow's clashes is the match between league leaders Maccabi Tel Aviv and Ironi Ashdod at the National Stadium at 16:00.

While Maccabi is favored to win this one and thus maintain its two-point lead at the top, the small matter of Alon Mizrahi will be the focus of attention. The *striker,* who walked out on Maccabi Tel Aviv after severe differences with coach Avraham Grant *is on loan to Ashdod before* returning to his former club, Maccabi Haifa, next season. Nothing would give Mizrahi more pleasure than to score against Maccabi and one can assume that he will do everything in his power to prove that Grant was wrong in not giving him more free rein up front while he was with Tel Aviv.

Maccabi, for its part, will want to take revenge for its 1-0 defeat at the hands of Ashdod in its opening fixture of the season.

Elsewhere, Maccabi Haifa travels to bottom club Maccabi Herzliya and will hope to repeat *its 4-2 success at Kiryat Eliezer in* Round 1 of the season. The Haifaites are well equipped to stay in touch with the leaders and have a fully-fit side for the 18:00 clash in Herzliya.

A classic clash between traditional rivals Betar Jerusalem and Hapoel Tel Aviv *should* attract a full house at Teddy Stadium, while third-placed Hapoel Petah Tikva travels to the valley stronghold in Beit She'an where they will want a win in order to stay in touch with the leading pack.

The lower divisions are playing the seventh round of the State Cup this weekend.

This weekend's National League fixtures (all matches kick off tomorrow at 14:30 *unless otherwise stated, first-round result in* brackets):

Maccabi Tel Aviv vs. Ironi Ashdod (0-1), Ramat Gan, 16:00; Maccabi Herzliya vs. *Maccabi Haifa (2-4), Herzliya,* 18:00; Hapoel Beit She'an vs. Hapoel Petah Tikva (0-1), Beit She'an; Betar Jerusalem vs. Hapoel Tel Aviv (2-2), Teddy Stadium, 15:00; Ironi *Rishon vs. Bnei Yehuda (1-3), Rishon;* Betar Tel Aviv vs. Hapoel Beersheba (1-2), Ramat Gan, 14:00; Maccabi Petah Tikva vs. Maccabi Netanya (5-3), Petah Tikva; *Hapoel Haifa vs. Zafririm Holon (3-1),* Kiryat Eliezer, 15:00.

NATIONAL LEAGUE
After 15 rounds

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Mac. Tel Aviv	9	2	4	29	16	29
Mac. Haifa	7	6	2	31	20	27
Hap. Petah Tikva	8	3	4	21	17	27
Hap. Tel Aviv	7	5	3	25	19	26
Bnei Yehuda	6	5	4	28	22	23
Hap. Beersheba	6	5	4	24	18	23
Bet. Jerusalem	6	3	6	21	16	21
Hap. Beit She'an	5	6	4	16	21	21
Rishon Lezion	4	6	5	16	15	18
Mac. Petah Tikva	3	8	4	20	19	17
Bet. Tel Aviv	5	2	8	19	29	17
Zafririm Holon	4	4	7	19	24	16
Mac. Netanya	4	4	7	20	26	16
Hap. Haifa	4	3	8	22	28	15
Ironi Ashdod	3	5	7	17	25	14
Mac. Herzliya	3	5	7	17	30	14

A slow start won't do for the Chargers

MIAMI (AP) – The Super Bowl begins at 6:18 pm Sunday, whether the San Diego Chargers are ready or not.

Notoriously slow starters, the Chargers say they must break that bad habit to beat the San Francisco 49ers. After all, it's hard to rally against a team that seems to score every time it has the ball.

"They have probably the most *prolific* offensive scoring machine that ever played the game," San Diego receiver Tony Martin said Wednesday. "They have far too much talent to fall behind. If you dig too big a hole for yourself, you will never get out of it."

The Chargers have fallen behind in *15 of 18* games. They overcame deficits to win 10 times, including dramatic playoff victories against Miami and Pittsburgh.

That script seems likely to be *rejected* by the *49ers,* who are 19-point favorites.

"I don't believe we can play catchup against these guys," San Diego quarterback Stan Humphries said. "We've got to stay close the whole game or get on top of them early. They have as good an *offense* as I've ever seen, and we can't expect to be down to them and keep them off the board while we're coming back."

While the Chargers probably will fail if they trail early, their task is complicated by San Francisco's knack for quick getaways:

San Francisco this season scored a team-record 505 points, the fourth-highest total in NFL history. Player of the Year Steve Young set a league mark with his quarterback rating *of* 112.8, and perennial All-Pro receiver Jerry Rice broke the league record for career touchdowns.

Super Bowl live

Channel 5 will broadcast Sunday's Super Bowl live, with a pregame show starting at 00:45 Monday. *Kickoff is at 1:18. Repeat* broadcasts will be shown Monday at 17:30 and 23:45.

SCOREBOARD

NHL – Wednesday's results: Hartford 4, Ottawa 1; Buffalo 2, New Jersey 1; Pittsburgh 3, N.Y. Rangers 2; Montreal 2, Washington 0; Tampa Bay 3, Florida 2; Toronto 6, Vancouver 2; Chicago 5, Edmonton 1; San Jose 4, Winnipeg 0; Dallas 4, Anaheim 1.

NBA – Wednesday's results: L.A. Clippers 107, Boston 98; Milwaukee 98, Philadelphia 97; Atlanta 103, Charlotte 96; Utah 130, Sacramento 88; L.A. Lakers 120, New Jersey 116 (OT).

Sampras downs Chang

MELBOURNE (AP) – Pete Sampras, emotionally and physically drained, continued his rollercoaster ride through the Australian Open yesterday, beating Michael Chang in four sets to advance to the final for the second straight year.

Sampras, the defending champion, *defeated his fellow American* 6-7 (6-8), 6-3, 6-4, 6-4 in three hours, seven minutes.

The other men's semifinal between No.2 seed Andre Agassi and unseeded Aaron Krickstein will be played today.

Sampras advanced to his seventh Grand Slam title and will be seeking his sixth title on Sunday.

Arantxa Sanchez Vicario and Mary Pierce scored emphatic victories in women's action to set up a repeat of last year's French Open final.

Sanchez Vicario, top-seeded in *a Grand Slam for the first time,* overwhelmed unseeded American Marianne Werdel Witmeyer 6-4, 6-1 by hitting the ball consistently hard and deep.

Pierce earlier overcame a niggling shoulder ailment and No.2 seed Conchita Martinez, winning 6-3, 6-1 in an error-strewn match and advancing to the second Grand Slam final of her career. She became the first French woman to make the Australian Open final.

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- The *Post*'s "agony aunt" Ruth Blum answers readers' questions.
- Intelligence experts Uri Dan and Dennis Eisenberg give you inside stories of international intrigue.

Colonel reprimanded for calling women 'whores'

ALON PINKAS

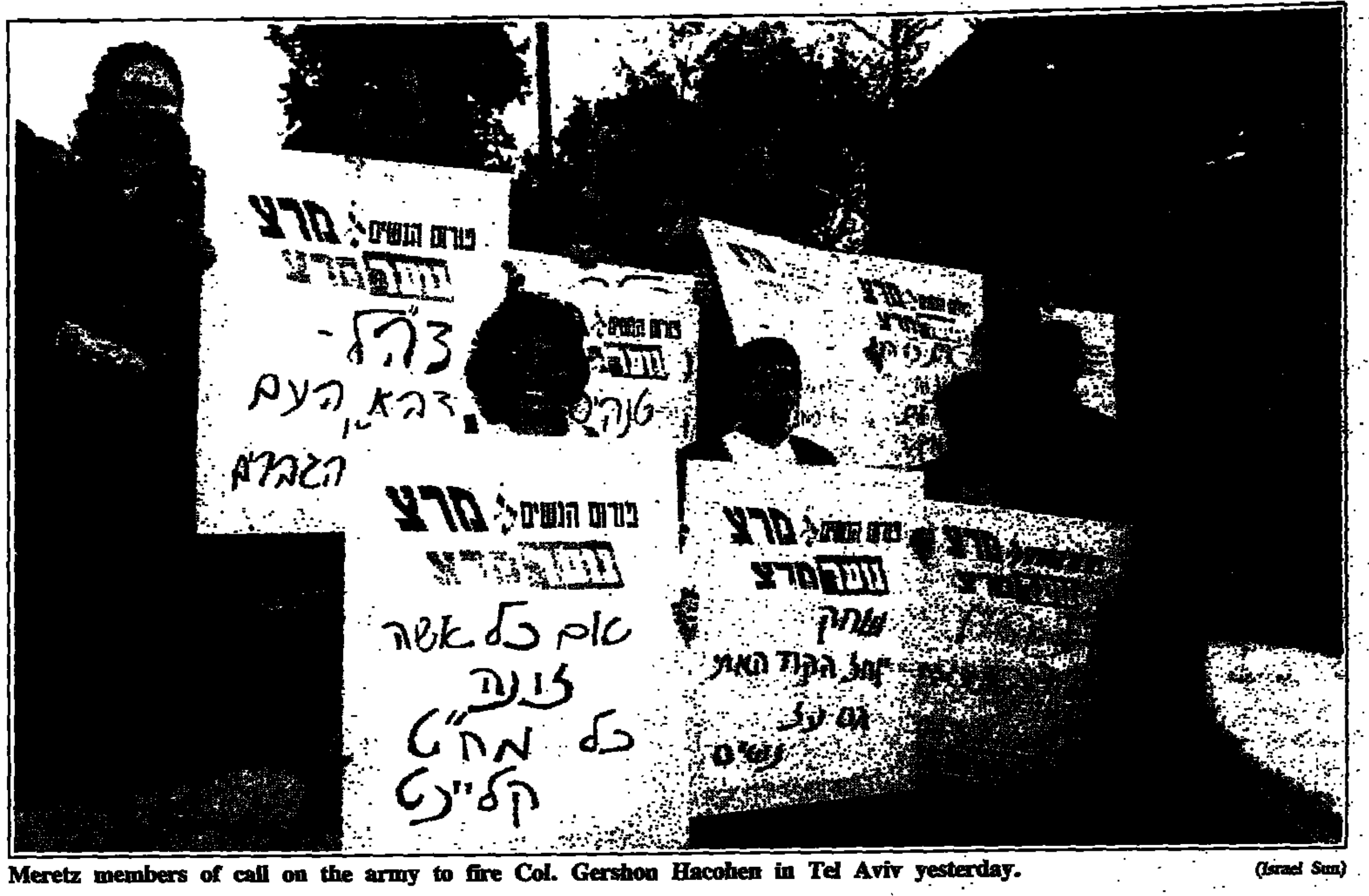
COL. Gershon Hacohen, the commander of the 7th Armored Brigade, was reprimanded yesterday for remarks depicting women as whores which he made at a Jerusalem high school on January 15. Hacohen apologized for the remarks.

OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Amiram Levine summoned and reprimanded Hacohen on disciplinary grounds. He was charged with behavior unbecoming an officer for making abusive and derogatory remarks about women soldiers in the IDF and women in general.

In a letter to Levine, Hacohen asked to make a public apology and said that he had made inexcusable remarks. Hacohem described his own behavior as unacceptable and stupid, and did not try to say his words were taken out of context.

"I have no excuse whatsoever for a stupid and unthoughtful thing I said... I apologize to anyone who felt insulted... even my wife gave me hell," he told Army Radio yesterday.

In a speech he made without obtaining the required formal approval from his superiors – for which he was also reprimanded – Hacohen told a group of twelfth graders at the Gymnasia Rehavia high school in Jerusalem: "Men are traditionally warriors, while women were always whores." He then added that most tasks women perform in their army service can be done better these days by computers and answering machines.



Meretz members of call on the army to fire Col. Gershon Hacohen in Tel Aviv yesterday. (Israel Sun)

The remarks, which according to both Hacohen and some of the students intended to illustrate why men should join combat units in the army, created a stir when several girls left the room in protest, and subsequently when Hacohen's comments reached the press.

The remarks drew fierce criticism yesterday from women's organizations, MKs, and political youth groups, and angered citizens who phoned call-in radio programs and expressed dismay over them.

WIZO Israel began legal procedures to see if Hacohen's remarks were defamatory, and thus in violation of the slander law. MK Naomi Hazan called them scandalous, while MK Lior Livnat called for his resignation and joined a Meretz youth movement demonstration calling for the army to dismiss Hacohen.

Most of the criticism also called for the army to dismiss Hacohen for remarks that reflect distorted values and attitudes, but his public apology and reprimand will most likely satisfy the IDF top brass.

Hacohen is considered a brilliant officer with a promising career ahead of him.

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Police arrest boy, 14, with pistol outside TA court building

TEL AVIV's Hayarkon police last night were still investigating why a 14-year-old Taiba youth was found yesterday in possession of a loaded pistol at the entrance to the city's Magistrate's and District Court building.

Security guards alerted police about the youth, who was behaving suspiciously. He was arrested by policemen charged with securing the area in and around the court building. The loaded .22 pistol, apparently stolen from Netanya a few months ago, was found during a search.

Police stressed that the youth is not suspected of planning to carry out a terror attack. *Raine Marcus*

TAU senate rejects affirmative action program

BATSHEVA TSUR

EDUCATION Minister Amnon Rubinstein yesterday expressed his regret at the decision of the Tel Aviv University senate to oppose a special program for accepting students from weak socio-economic backgrounds to the Law Faculty.

"The academic public should not ignore the need to answer problems of integration in higher education," Rubinstein, who was formerly the Law Faculty dean, said. But he expressed the hope that his policy of promoting the establishment of academic colleges throughout the country would provide a partial answer to the problem.

The senate on Wednesday turned down a proposal from the Law Faculty for "affirmative action" in accepting students whose socio-economic background justified this. Some 20 students were to have been accepted to the program on a two-year experimental basis.

Dean Uriel Rozen-Zvi, who brought the proposal to the senate, said the psychometric entrance examination is not sufficient to predict who would succeed in the legal field. The students in question scored approximately 25 points below the cut-off rate for the Law Faculty, which requires a very high score for admittance.

Rozen-Zvi called the senate's decision "a serious mistake," describing the typical law student as being from middle-class background "without too much social consciousness."

This, he said, would later have an effect on the entire judicial process in Israel.

Since the senate session, at which the issue was debated, was poorly attended, Rozen-Zvi said, he plans to demand that the body reconvene with all its members to reverse the decision.

Anniversary of Lehi founder's death marked

FORMER prime minister and Lehi commander Yitzhak Shamir, President Ezer Weizman, Likud Chairman Binyamin Netanyahu, MKs, family and comrades of Avraham (Yair) Stern, founder of the Lehi underground, gathered yesterday at the Nahalat Yitzhak cemetery in Tel Aviv to mark 53 years since he was killed by the Palestine Police. Yair Stern, named after his father's nom de guerre, said *kaddish*, and a memorial prayer was said for Stern and the 43 Lehi fighters killed in Israel's wars. (Itim)

Four held in raid on casino; croupiers ordered deported

RAINE MARCUS

FOUR alleged casino managers were remanded for four days, and five foreign croupiers were ordered deported yesterday by Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court Judge Moshe Shamai. Their casino had been raided on Wednesday night.

A vice squad detective said the casino, in central Tel Aviv, was owned by some of the kingpins of the city's underworld.

One such man, Gad Plum, who recently returned here from Germany, where he served a 13-year sentence for murder, was placed under house arrest. Plum, said police sources, has been accepted with open arms by the underworld.

Police believe that the four men remanded – Serge Nagi, Reuven Abado, Gabriel Hershko, and Vadislav Molagnov – can provide them with information on the city's underworld.

Officially police denied that the raid follows last week's attempted murders of underworld figures Moshe Alperon and Ilan Aslan, but sources said that they are keen to gather information about relationships and possible wars between rival gangs.

Nagi said that he is the owner and manager of the casino, but police said he is concealing the identity of the real owners. Molagnov said he was just passing by and has no connection with the casino, but police believe he is a silent partner in the operation, which reaps hundreds of thousands of shekels in profits monthly.

Woman charges book about Ben-Amotz ruined her life

RAINE MARCUS

NERYA Bar, described in a book by journalist Amnon Dankner as having enticed young girls into having sex with the late Dahn Ben-Amotz, said in Tel Aviv District Court yesterday that her life had been ruined since the book's publication.

"After the book's publication, I couldn't go out for days," she said during cross-examination.

Bar, 40, is suing Dankner, Keter publications, and the defunct daily *Hadashot* for NIS 1 million for libel.

The book describes Ben-Amotz as a lascivious and perverted man who seduced juveniles and took part in orgies, together with radio broadcaster Alex Ansky. Ansky originally sued Dankner for NIS 500,000, but the two reached an out-of-court settlement.

Dankner's lawyer, Mibi Moser, said that Bar herself provided the author with the information written about her in the book. Dankner wrote that she undressed and bathed 13- and 14-year-old girls, to prepare them for Ben-Amotz's orgies. She had been a soldier and Ansky's girlfriend at the time portrayed in the book.

In court, she denied giving Dankner the information used in the book. But Moser asked her why she appeared on Dan Shilon's talk show only three days after the book's publication if she had been so ashamed to leave her home. Bar responded that Dankner was lying, and said she was unaware of Ben-Amotz's sexual activities with minors.

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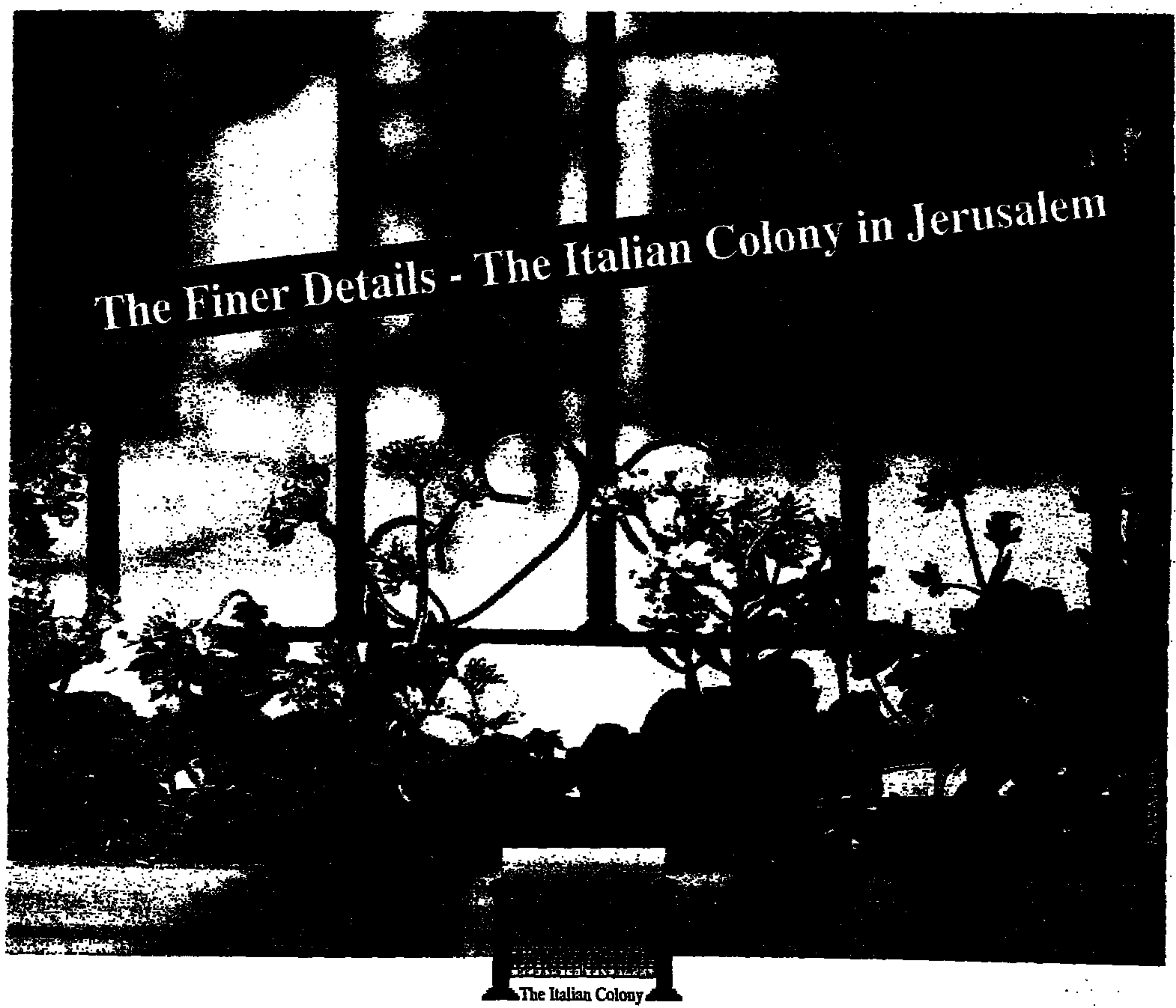

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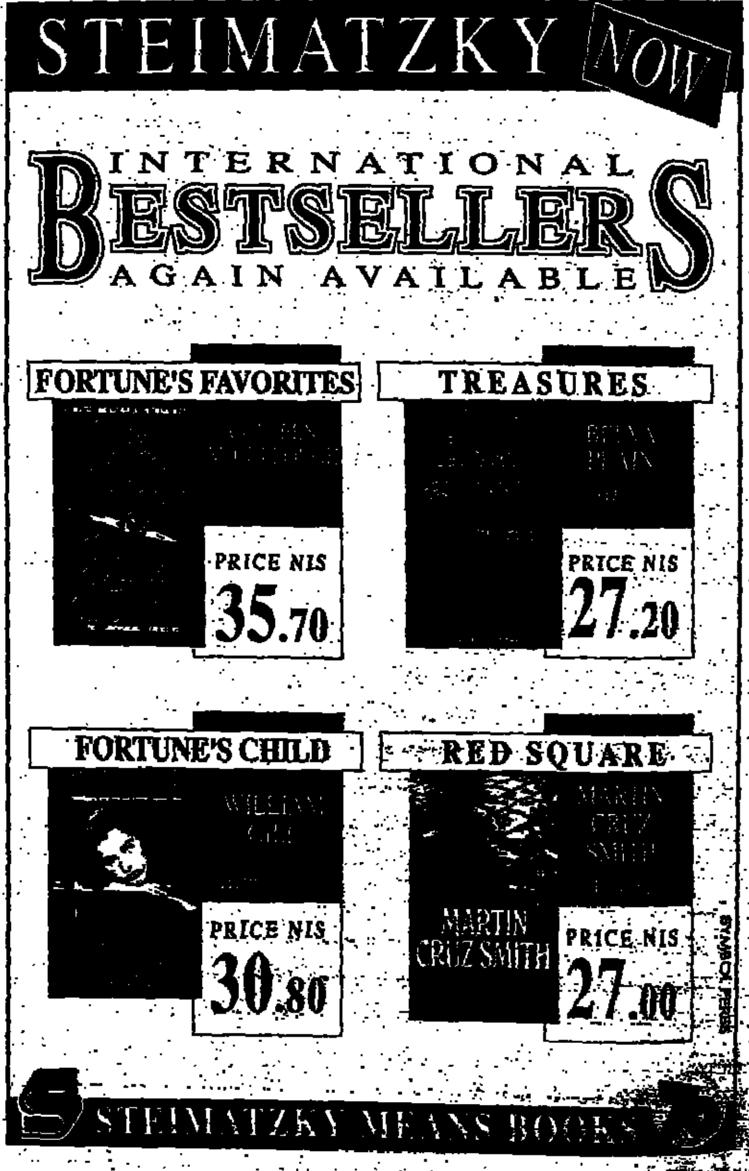

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